FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

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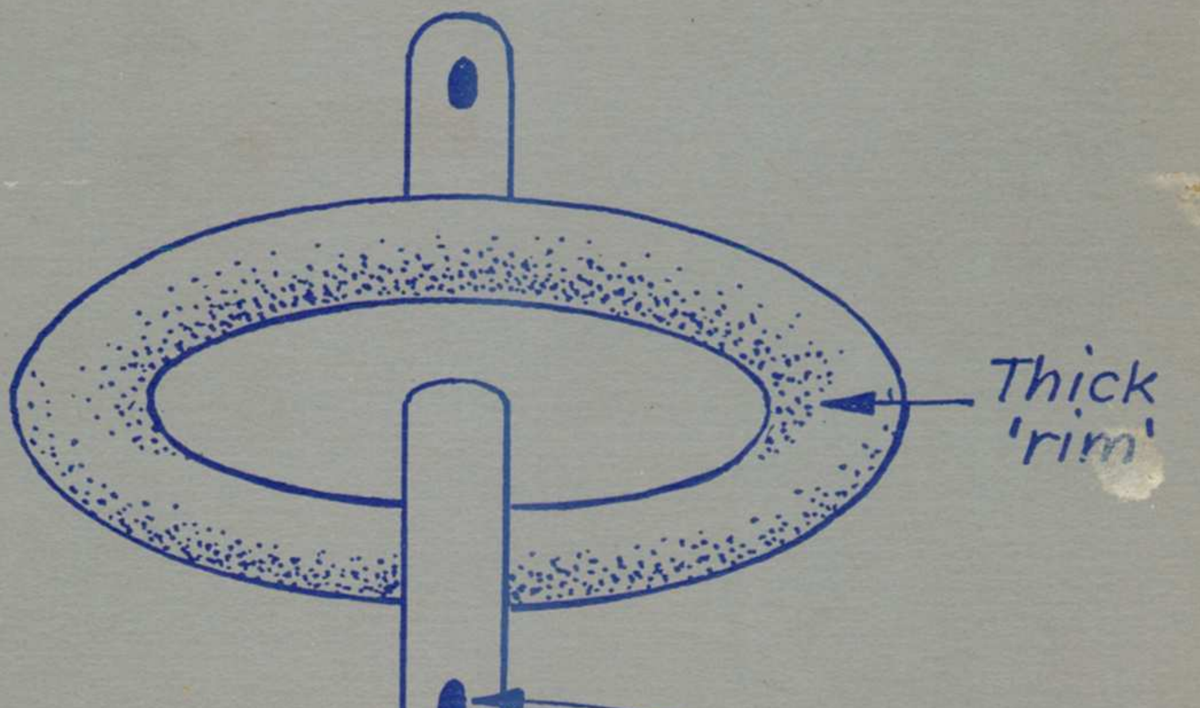

SAUCERS OVER SOUTHAMPTON

The bi-monthly
Journal of
SPACE

Edited by
Waveney Girvan

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW

INCORPORATING FLYING SAUCER NEWS

Vol. 10 No. 1 **JANUARY-FEBRUARY**
1964

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1964
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Impossible?

NEW YEAR is traditionally a time for stocktaking and as it happens that this Review now enters its tenth year of publication in 1964 a moment for reflection may be opportune. Great progress has been made since 1955 when the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW was founded although on many occasions it must have appeared that the subject had been buried for good and all. No new concept has been more bitterly opposed for so long. Even now we represent minority opinion : even now many people hesitate to say in public what they believe about the saucers.

Most of us know what we have been up against. It is all very well to ascribe the opposition to prejudice and ignorance. It is quite true that they are the rocks we try to erode, but as we look back across the years it appears that we may have under-estimated the strength of the opposition and its true nature. Nor is it much use to explain this opposition as being nurtured solely in fear. Even if this is mainly true as an explanation, as we believe it to be, we must still recognise that it has affected various people differently. By taking stock in this way we may be able to learn more about our opponents and how to overcome their inhibitions. Once these are removed the evidence can be calmly presented and the scepticism removed.

It was not only the scientist who opposed the flying saucer : he was our main opponent, it is true, and he was among the first to offer an opinion on the mystery for what was reported in our skies appeared to be a machine that defied all the known laws of gravity and several other laws as well. What is impossible cannot exist. Dr. Menzel (whom we shall be welcoming to our columns) whether he realises it or not, bases his whole case on this single assumption. There is a form of logic here and it must be recognised by those who wish to prove him wrong.

If we are ever to persuade him to another opinion it is not much use arguing endlessly about the " explanations ". He must be asked to examine his premise. Why is it impossible for the inter-planetary saucer to exist ? And if it can exist then the evidence that this Review and many others have collected over the years may be much more indicative of an interplanetary visitation than, say, phosphorescent owls and zig-zagging meteors, to mention two only of the unlikely explanations that have been offered to destroy the impossible. We have often had Occam's Razor quoted against us by the scientists, but here again the argument is based on what may be a false premise — namely that flying saucers cannot exist. Could we ever be told why they cannot ?

Our religious leaders have, on the whole, been more tolerant of our case. On occasion, however, it has seemed that the flying saucer threatens to undermine some article of faith. The REVIEW hesitates to pronounce on religious matters and among our readers there are representatives of many faiths. They, it would seem, find no contradiction between the flying saucer and their particular church, but it cannot be denied that the subject does give offence to many sincere people of a Christian or a Jewish persuasion. We must admit, however, that we cannot understand how the existence of intelligences on other planets can possibly offend any of the religions known to to us. Far from conflicting with a belief in God it would seem to us to go far to confirm His existence and omnipotence. Indeed, there are some who hold that the saucers are a manifestation of religious truth and turn to the Old Testament in their support. But there are many others who seem to fear that if it is admited that man on earth is neither unique nor supreme they will have to re-examine their faith and perhaps have it destroyed in the process. Here undoubtedly fear is at work. But is this assumption correct ? As with the scientist, can we not ask the faithful to question the premise on which their opposition is based ?

On both sides of the Atlantic, 1964 will be a year of elections and political controversy. Politicians, too, are given to accepting the false premise we have quoted. Their fear is redicule, or perhaps it would be better to say that they hope that flying saucers do not exist so that they may not look embarrassed before the electorate. While many politicians may secretly believe in or even know about flying saucers, they realise that they must keep their mouths shut until the public is prepared, in one way or the other, to accept the truth.

Satire is fashionable in Great Britain at the moment. Neither religion nor politics are spared. The Establishment, whatever that means, exists only to be mocked. No institution bar one is immune and that exception is Science. Hardly ever are its pronouncements questioned, let alone scorned. Science, with a capital S, has declared against the flying saucer and nothing is to be allowed in its defence. No man may re-open this particular trial or appeal against the verdict. The reasons given may have been proved false by the passing of time (space travel of any sort was declared impossible a mere ten years ago), but the basic assumption made by people like Dr. Menzel must be accepted as categorical.

While on the surface this picture may appear from our point of view rather depressing there is much going on behind the scenes that makes 1964 one of the most hopeful years in our existence. More and more scientists are coming to our aid. Our readers grow steadily in numbers and in quality. Our subscription list includes the names of several eminent men. Some have been ready to declare themselves in public, others feel that the time for that is not yet ripe. A few indeed, have written for us, but while not belittling either their qualifications or their courage, those who have come forward are not yet sufficiently well known to influence a wide public. What we can say as 1964 arrives is that the truth will out, that balanced and well-informed word of mouth will finally turn the scales in our favour. It cannot now be long before the weight of evidence and the turning tide of fashion combine not only to establish the truth but also to make it public.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Will all readers please carefully note that the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW has changed its address. As from January 1, 1964, all letters should be sent to 31 Furnival Street, London, E.C.4.

The new telephone number is HOLborn 7952

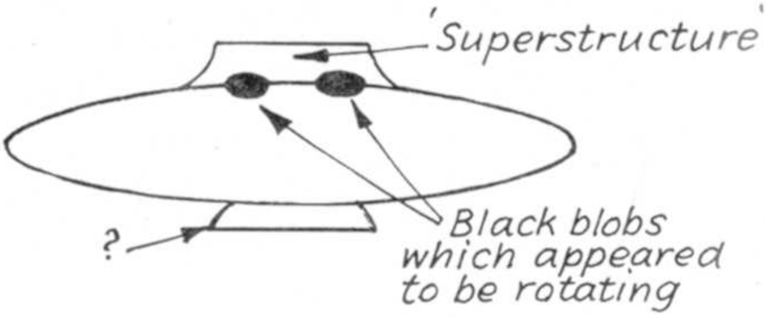
SAUCERS OVER SOUTHAMPTON

by ***PETER J. KELLY***

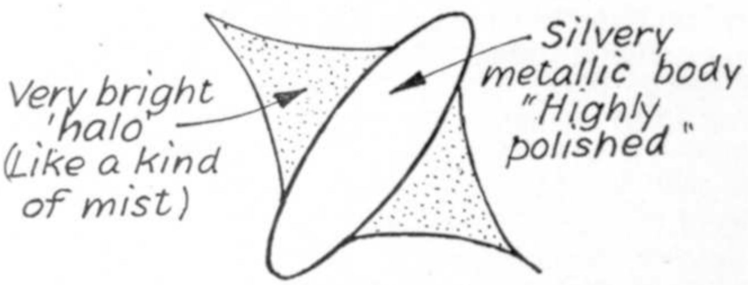
Southampton and area have been particularly favoured with saucer sightings during recent months. The author of this article is a Science Teacher at the Testwood Secondary Modern School at Totton, near Southampton, and he describes a number of recent sightings reported to him by pupils at the school.

ON Friday, September 6, 1963, Michael Blake a fifth-former at Testwood Secondary Modern School, was at Hornsdown Avenue, Houndsdown (about half a mile south west of Totton) when he noticed an oval-shaped reddish object in the south east at an elevation of about 60°. He said that the object appeared to be "very high." It started to descend at an angle of about 45° to his left, i.e. the direction of descent would have been approximately north or north east. The angle of descent was not constant, but decreasing.

As it descended, it oscillated from side to side. With respect to the vertical plane the UFO did not follow a straight line, but took an "S" shaped course. During descent the colour alternated between dark red and light red and was "very bright." When the object was at an estimated altitude of about 200 feet, it appeared to be directly over the electric power station at Marchwood which would place it three miles north west of Hythe. Michael then went indoors to tell a friend about the object. He estimates that he was away for only 10-15 seconds, but when he returned with his friend the object had vanished. From start to finish no sound was heard. While it was hovering over the power station for between two or three minutes, a super-structure became clearly visible as will be seen from the following sketch:

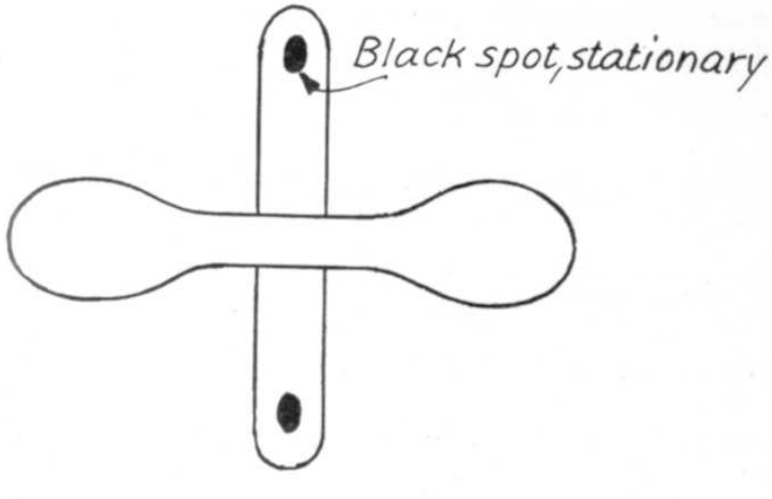


Michael Blake, who lives at 21, Calmore Road, Totton, by a remarkable coincidence saw another UFO earlier in the month and gave me the details. I am quite convinced as to his sincerity: prior to his sightings he took no special interest in UFOs. At approximately 5 p.m. on the evening of Sunday, September 15, 1963, he saw an object in the sky which he sketched, as below:

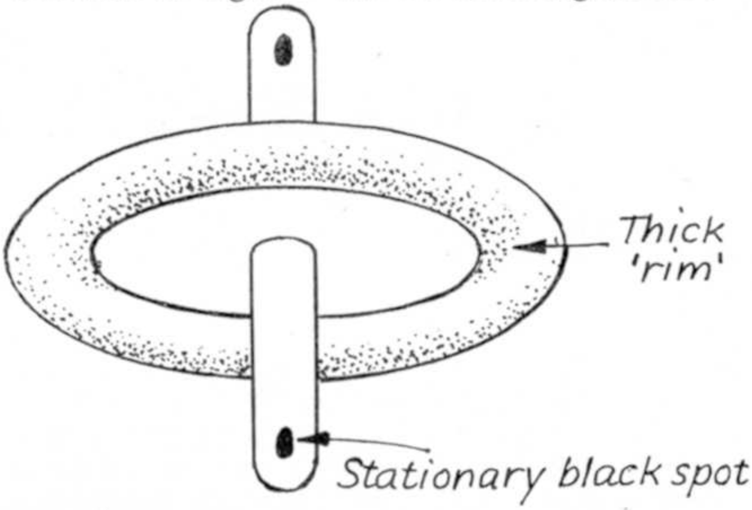


The object was travelling towards Southampton at "terrific" speed so fast, in fact, that Michael had it in view for only about two or three seconds. The object seemed to be tilted at about 45°, but the angle of tilt may well have been more or less.*

On Sunday, September 15, 1963, at 4.45 p.m., James Poulton another fifth-former at Testwood Secondary Modern School was with his parents, sister and brother-in-law, about five miles north east of Barton-on-Sea, Hampshire, when he noticed an object at 40° elevation in the south. It had the appearance of a gyroscope with a very thick spindle, thus:

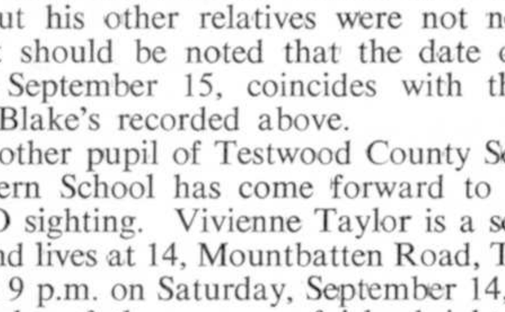


The previous drawing is an estimate of what the object would have looked like from the side. The object actually was inclined at 40° towards the direction of flight — see the following sketch :



It was travelling at a moderate speed, was very bright and silvery all over, except for the black spot. It moved towards the south west and was very high. James Poulton, who lives at 293, Calmore Road, Totton, Hants., watched the UFO for 30-40 seconds. His brother-in-law, Mr. P. R. Shergold who also lives at Totton, also saw the object, but his other relatives were not near at hand. It should be noted that the date of this sighting, September 15, coincides with that of Michael Blake's recorded above.

Yet another pupil of Testwood County Secondary Modern School has come forward to testify to a UFO sighting. Vivienne Taylor is a second-former and lives at 14, Mountbatten Road, Totton. At about 9 p.m. on Saturday, September 14, 1963, she and her father saw a fairly bright oval-shaped object at an elevation of 40° in the south east or east south east. The object was of a reddish colour, "a bit darker than a red hot poker." It travelled from left to right (i.e. approximately south west) and it disappeared behind a cloud. It emerged from the cloud almost immediately at the point it had entered, travelling now in the opposite direction. Here is Vivienne's drawing of the object at this stage :



When it emerged, it seemed to have a heart-shaped or B-shaped dark marking in the centre. There seemed to be another of these markings at the edge of the cloud. Neither of these markings was noticed before the object went behind the cloud. There was no noise at any time. Vivienne is absolutely sure as to the perfectly elliptical shape. I got her to select from a number of ellipses of various eccentricities the one that most closely resembled her sighting. The one she chose made it probable that the object was, in fact, circular. As with the other people I have quoted, I am convinced of her good faith. Her father described the object as being: "Something irregular — something you wouldn't normally see."

Yet another report came to me from John Baker, a sixth-form prefect. He and three friends were fishing on the River Test near Totton on Saturday, October 12, 1963, at 11.30 p.m. when they noticed an extremely bright glow at an elevation of 60° in the east. The apparent diameter was established as being similar to that of a clock with a one foot diameter seen at a distance of 30 feet, or about three times the apparent diameter of the sun. The glow lasted no more than about three seconds and was so bright that one witness declared : "I had to look away from it — it was like burning magnesium." The light faded as mysteriously as it had come. No horizontal or vertical movement was noticed and there was no sound.

On Tuesday, November 12, at 3 a.m., Mr. D. Mackintosh, a science master at Testwood Secondary Modern School was driving his car through Chandlers Ford, Hampshire, when he noticed a Silvery object in the south east. This object appeared to be oval and descended like a falling leaf. It then remained motionless for a few moments and Mr. Mackintosh estimated that it was over the railway works at Eastleigh. The object then ascended and disappeared. Whether it accelerated swiftly or went out like a snuffed candle, Mr. Mackintosh was not sure—he was having to keep part of his attention on his driving. He now wishes he had stopped to get a good look.

*When Michael Blake was shown copies of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW he said that the object he saw resembled that taken by Don Santiago Salvat Llaurado on August 27, 1959, on a beach near Barcelona. See Antonio Ribera's article in the July-August 1962 issue. Sr. Ribera refers to an article by Gordon W. Creighton in the March-April, 1961, issue, which, in turn, quotes from the Russian newspaper *Komsomolskaya Pravda* of January 8, 1961. This paper reproduced a photograph which closely resembled Llaraudo's and therefore the object sketched by Michael Blake. The Russians were attempting to explain away the object as a trick of the camera, but in view of the evidence subsequently produced, this explanation must fail. Readers are also referred to the frontispiece photograph reproduced in *Flying Saucers on the Moon* by Harold T. Wilkins, published in 1954. (The American edition is entitled *Flying Saucers on the Attack*). This photograph shows three similar objects in the night sky over the Armco Steel Corporation's blast furnace plant at Hamilton, Ohio, U.S.A., in 1950.

THE AUSTRALIAN SPHERES

A number of readers have asked us for latest information concerning the mystery spherical objects which fell on Australian soil during 1963. Brief reference was made to these incidents in the World Round Up section of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, but no further evidence of a conclusive nature has been received. We print the following summary of the mystery with due acknowledgements to the UFO Investigator (June-September issue), the official bulletin of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena of Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

The odd metal " space " spheres found in New South Wales and Australia, in April and mid-July 1963, still have not been identified, according to the Australian Minister of Supply, Mr. Allen Fairhall. Minister Fairhall stated that his inquiries to the U.S. and U.S.S.R. space agencies have drawn a blank.

The first mystery ball, 12lb. hollow sphere 14 inches in diameter, was discovered on April 8, 1963, in a desolate part of Bouilla Station, New South Wales. Mr. J. McLure, who found it, said no one else had been in the area for 50 years. Scientists failed in their efforts to open the sphere with files and hacksaws.

On April 30, Minister Fairhall told the House of Representatives that the sphere had been definitely identified as part of a space vehicle. He said it had not yet been opened as it might contain " something of scientific interest." He added, " It's a million-to-one chance that a piece of orbiting hardware should survive the temperature of re-entry and be recovered in one piece." Australian scientists said later it might have been protected by a heat shield.

On June 28, the second " space ball " fell, in New South Wales, 60 miles from the first location. This one weighed 18 lb. and was 16 inches in diameter. It was made of the same puzzling metal.

The third sphere fell on July 12, near Muloorina, in South Australia. It was six inches in diameter and had an opening in it.

Earlier, Australian officials had said the first sphere would be cut in half for scientific examination. To date, so far as NICAP can learn, there have been no further announcement.

The highly technical work and cost required to build such spheres seems to rule out any hoax answer. Both the U.S. and U.S.S.R. have denied any connection. Even if the spheres were earth-made, all three would hardly fall by accident in this one area. To drop them there deliberately would require precise re-entry by remote-control, also retro-firing jets, which the spheres did not have.

If they were extraterrestrial, some more advanced control mechanism might be used. In this case, the Australian Government may have found the answer—and possibly a clue to their purpose—on opening the spheres. To the best of our knowledge, Australian officials have been silent as to what was discovered.

Awards for Essays on Gravity

In 1964 for our Fifteenth Year the Trustees are offering Five Awards for short Essays for the purpose of stimulating thought and encouraging work on Gravity. The stipulations follow:

(1) These Awards will be made by us on June 1, 1964 for the best 1500 word essays * on *what Gravity is, how it works and how it may be controlled.*

(2) **The First Award will be $1000.00; the Second Award will be $300.00; the Third Award will be $200.00 ; the Fourth Award will be $150.00; the Fifth Award will be $100.00.**

(3) Essays must be received before April 15, 1964. One essay only will be accepted from anyone who is seriously interested in the application of Gravity to practical uses for the benefit of humanity.

(4) All essays must be typewritten, double spaced, in English, *with two carbon copies.*

(5) The decision of the Judges will be final. No essays or copies can be returned but writers are free to publish after June first. Preference will be given to essays written especially for these Awards.

(6) Please write a title covering the area of thought expresed in your essay; and a summary paragraph of 100 words or less on a separate sheet.

(7) Please attach a separate sheet giving a short biographical sketch of yourself for use by the press in case you earn an Award.

Address: Gravity Research Foundation, New Boston, N.H. George M. Rideout, President.

* It may be less than 1,500 words; but if more the judges have the right not to accept same.

A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF THE ENTITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE TYPE 1 SIGHTING

by Jacques Vallée

(1) The Problem of the Type — I Sightings

The Flying Saucer phenomenon is not included among the scientific questions held to be important. And yet a detailed study of it could perhaps lead to a considerable modification in our conceptions of the Universe.

Among the few scientists who take a more or less clandestine interest in the saucer problem it remans an open question whether or not sightings of UFOs were made in times previous to our own epoch. But the majority of investigators concern themselves with the sightings that have occurred since World War II. If we assemble together, in a general list comprising several thousands of statements of evidence, the whole of the material that has been published or has been communicated to the principal commissions of enquiry, and if we collate this material and subject it to a serious critical study, we are able to perceive several great "phases" in the history of the saucer phenomenon.

From 1947 to 1950, we had apparitions of objects (or of images interpreted as objects) located at great heights. These sightings were made, in general, by aeronautical specialists or by air-borne pilots, and supported by the much-discussed radar-fixes. In 1950 we had the first great wave over the United States, together with a peak of sightings across Spain and North Africa. Then, in 1952, a second American wave appears (coinciding with a fresh spurt of sightings in France), and it triggers off the first great controversies among officials, scientists, and the press. In 1954 we have the great French wave which constitutes the pinnacle of the whole history of the saucer phenomenon, and which reveals that phenomenon to us in its most astonishing aspect, inasmuch as the great majority of the sightings occurred at moderate or low altitudes or, indeed, upon the ground. Since that date, the phenomenon seems to have retained its biennial pattern—with the exception of the sudden peak in October-November 1957—but the volume of activity shows a clear diminution, and sightings in the vicinity of ground-level become rare.

Disussion of the nature of the Saucer Phenomenon is meaningless unless we establish a system for the classification of the sightings, supported by a detailed description of cases. In a recent article, I presented such a system of classification, as well as a method of coding the sightings for the purpose of statistical study. In my classification system, I defined a " Type—I Sighting " as follows : " A manifestation of the saucer phenomenon consisting in the observation, by the witnesses, of an unusual image, this image being a machine, of spherical or discoidal form or even more complex, on the surface of the ground or in proximity to the ground."

The "Martians"

Among these Type—I sightings, which attained their maximum itensity during the French wave of 1954 although they are in no way confined to that period, there appear a certain number of cases of the " Adamski " type and of obvious errors, which in our opinion should be automatically ruled out. After eliminating these, we have been able to index a total of over 350 Type—I sightings. The most interesting for the psychologist and for the investigator are the sightings in which reliable witnesses affirm that, in the vicinity of the object described by them as a "machine," they have perceived forms in human shape which they hold to be the " pilots " of these machines and which we find popularised in the press—rightly or wrongly —under the familiar name of " Martians."

The problem is an important one, from both the human and the psychological angle. When we have excluded from the list the small number of those who encounter Venusians in the desert and whose own psychological description presents no question, the witnesses reveal themselves to be individuals of very varying circumstances, belong-

ing to all races, and of all the different character-types. If their eyewitness accounts are coherent, must we then proceed from there to the conclusion that hallucination, vision, or hoax, acting in combination with the phenomena of the press have assumed an entirely new role in our modern civilisation? That modern man, whatever his circumstances or his formation, finds it necessary to adhere to fantastic new myths? Or should we rather take the trouble to set our statistics in operation and investigate more seriously the physical nature of the apparitions, while not excluding the hypothesis —repugnant as it is, however, to the scientific spirit—that certain entities have indeed come, across Space, " to visit " our planet?

If we confine ourselves to the study of the statistical aspect of the question, and if we seek to reduce our study of the lists and files to rough figures, we find that at least 153 " Martians " have been seen on the soil of our planet, this figure being broken down as follows: 16 prior to the 1954 wave, 97 during that wave, and 40 since. Are these sightings coherent and what picture of our " visitors " do we get if we seek to extract the chief features from these accounts? This is what we now propose to do. Let us begin by giving the complete list of sightings at our disposal in this investigation.

(2) List of Sightings of Unknown Objects accompanied by " Pilots "

Date		Place	Country	Witnessed by	Description of " Pilots "	Total
18 May,	1909	Caerphilly	Gt. Britain	Lethbridge	2 beings; foreign language	2
	1921	Marseilles	France	—	2 people in diving - suits (Abduction ?)	2
23 July,	1950	Guyancourt	France	—	2 beings, height 1 metre 70	2
30 June,	1952	Hasselbach	Germany	O. and G. Linke	2 men in metallic one-piece suits examining soil, one of them with a sort of flash-lamp on his chest	2
12 Sept.,	1952	Flatwood	U.S.A	Mrs. K. May	Red monster, 3 metres height, spat fire, emitted nauseous vapours	1
15 Oct.,	1952	Le Vigan	France	—	Helmeted and masked figures ..	2
16 Nov.,	1962	Castel-Frc.	Italy	Nelle Ferrari	3 men, clad in rubber	3
12 Sept.,	1953	Brovst	Germany	—	2 humanoids, limbs emitting golden light; rough and cold like fish-scales	2
20 Aug.,	1954	Oeydalen	Norway	N. Solvang and Jacobsen	pilot draws signs on a piece of paper	1
23 Aug.,	1954	Lugrin	France	Elise Blanc	2 small beings 1 metre 20 in height, silvery clothing, grunting like pigs	2
Sept.,	1954	Otton	France	a municipal councillor	" An airman got into the saucer and flew off "	1
10 Sept.,	1954	Mouriéras	France	Mazaud	A being of medium height, helmet without ear - pieces, approaches gently while gesticulating with his arm above his head, hugs him and shakes hands	1
10 Sept.,	1954	Quarouble	France	De Wilde	2 beings; very wide " divers' suits "; no arms; less than 1 metre	2
17 Sept.,	1954	Cénon-Voun	France	Y. David	Very small man in " diver's suit " strokes his arm, emits unintelligible and non-human sounds	1
19 Sept.	1954	Oberdorff	France	Paul & Moll	a silhouette figure	1
20 Sept.,	1954	Santa Maria	Azores	Watchman	Pilot, incomprehensible language	1
22 Sept.,	1954	Diges-Jolive	France	Mlle. Fin	Man of average height	1
24 Sept.,	1954	Sierra Gardunha	Portugal	—	2 "aluminium men", 2 metres 50 in height; gestures inviting witnesses to get into their machine	2

26 Sept.,	1954	Chabeuil	France	Mme. Lebœuf	Small man in "diver's suit" 1 metre to 1 metre 10 in height; appeared to be wearing transparent plastic material; head blurred; eyes larger than human eyes	1
27 Sept.,	1954	Figeac	France	children	"an unknown"	1
27 Sept.,	1954	Perpignau	France	schoolboy	2 beings	2
27 Sept.,	1954	Prémanon	France	child named Romand	phantoms in sheet-metal	2
28 Sept.	1954	Bouzais	France	Mercier	3 men	3
1 Oct.,	1954	Jussey	France	2 young people	2 men "dressed all in white and very tall," get out of the saucer gesturing	2
2 Oct.,	1954	Jonches	France	—	2 humanoids	2
3 Oct.,	1954	Bressuire	France	Angelo G.	being of small stature, wearing "divers' suits"	1
3 Oct.,	1954	Vron, Somme	France	Devoisin	. . . man dressed in a "diver's suit"	1
4 Oct.,	1954	Chaleix	France	Garreau	2 normal men in khaki overalls, speaking unknown language, handshake	2
4 Oct.,	1954	Vil-Tilleul	France			
5 Oct.,	1954	Mertrud	France	Bertiaux	an unknown	1
				A. Narcy	a hairy dwarf	1
5 Oct.,	1954	Roverbella	Italy	a fisherman	an individual dressed in red; unknown language	1
5 Oct.,	1954	Loctudy	France	P. Lucas	a hairy "Martian," 1 metre 20 in height, touches arm of witness	1
7 Oct.,	1954	Hennezis	France	Lanselle	2 beings	2
7 Oct.,	1954	Isles/Suippe	France	M. Roy, etc.	small dark form, moving about	1
9 Oct.,	1954	Huy	Belgium	a postman	2 silhouetted forms of roughly human appearance	2
9 Oct.,	1954	Carcassonne	France	J.B.	2 human forms	2
9 Oct.,	1954	Pournoy-Ch.	France	G. Calda, etc.	Sort of man, height 1 metre 20, head hairy, big eyes	1
9 Oct.,	1954	Lavoux	France	Barrault	Strange being in diver's suit, height 1 metre 50	1
9 Oct.,	1954	Münster	Germany	Willy Hoge	4 beings, height 1 metre 20	4
9 Oct.,	1954	Briatexte	France	J. P. Mitto	2 beings of height of a 12-year-old child	2
10 Oct.,	1954	Montluson	France	—	A being, either very hairy or wearing hairy clothing. Incomprehensible language	1
11 Oct.,	1954	Taupignac	France	3 witnesses	4 beings	4
11 Oct.,	1954	Montbazin	France	—	1 being	1
12 Oct.,	1954	Montluçon	France	Laugere	1 being	[illegible]
12 Oct.,	1954	For. Mamora	—	—	man dressed in shiny overalls	
12 Oct.,	1954	Perpignan	France	—	a person	1
12 Oct.,	1954	Orchamps	France	M. Beuc	a pilot	1
12 Oct.,	1954	Erbray	France	a 13-year-old child	midgets holding a flaming ball	2
12 Oct.,	1954	Vielmur	France	Stramare	3 beings	3
13 Oct.,	1954	Bourrasole	France	M. Olivier	"diver's suit" with metallic reflections	1
14 Oct.,	1954	Perpignan	France	Figuères	"Diver" near a machine	1
14 Oct.,	1954	St. Ambroix	France	—	7 tiny beings, mysterious seeds	7
14 Oct.,	1954	Chemin Long	France	—	man in asbestos clothing	7
14 Oct.,	1954	Méral	France	a peasant	black shape	1
14 Oct.,	1954	Bois d'Erchin	France	Starovski (aged 33)	See description in text	1
15 Oct.,	1954	Livry/Seine	France	—	A being covered in chestnut-coloured hair	1
15 Oct.,	1954	Nimes	France	—	helmeted & masked silhouettes	
16 Oct.,	1954	Ste. M. Herbl.	France	G. Lelay (aged 12)	A man of medium height, dressed in grey, holding a flashing globe	1
16 Oct.,	1954	Londinière	France	Dr. Robert	an individual of 1 metre 20	1
17 Oct.,	1954	Isle of Capri	Italy	R. Castello	4 "visitors"	4
18 Oct.,	1954	Fontenay-To.,	France	a couple	An individual, height one metre, squat, wearing helmet	1

26 Oct.,	1954	La Madière	France	A. Bousard	A "diver," height 1 metre 20	1
1 Nov.,	1954	Poggi	Italy	Rossa Letti	2 midgets in "diving-suits"; human faces, small teeth, incomprehensible words	2
5 Nov.,	1954	Roche-Breuil	France	Raymond R.-	3 men, height 1 metre 50, in dark grey overalls, carrying a ray-box; hum of a transformer	3
13 Nov.,	1954	Curitiba	Brazil	a railway-worker	3 midgets in tight-fitting overalls, examining ballast of permanent way	3
14 Nov.,	1954	Isola	Italy	A. Lorenzini	2 midgets in "diving-suits"	2
25 Aug.,	1955	Greenhills	U.S.A.	—	A midget, height 1 metre 13 (!) big shining yellow eyes, black face, shining green body, claws (!!)	1
16 Sept.,	1955	Puy de Dôme	France	—	2 occupants of a disk	2
5 June,	1957	Uriman	Venezuela	—	2 "bellicose dwarfs"	2
5 Oct.,	1957	Cotes-Nord	France	—	2 dwarfs or midgets seen through port-hole of their machine	2
5 Oct.,	1957	Reims, Marne	France	—	a silhouetted figure	1
9 Oct.,	1957	Schenectady	U.S.A.	—	two dark dwarfs	2
10 Oct.,	1957	Quebra-Coco	Brazil	—	7 human beings, in shining clothing	7
5 Nov.,	1957	Kearney, Nebraska	U.S.A.	R. Schmidt	4 men and 2 women, speaking a sort of German	6
6 Nov.,	1957	Everittstown	U.S.A.	Mr. & Mrs. Trasco	An individual about 2 or 3 feet high, with green hat, gloves, prominent nose, big eyes, deep voice, with European (!) intonation	1
7 Nov.,	1957	Meridian	U.S.A.	Malvan Stevens	2 men and 1 woman, height 4½ ft. friendly, amber-coloured hair	3
8 Nov.,	1957	Waterloo	U.S.A.	P. Rutledge	2 forms in the cockpit of a machine	2
23 Nov.,	1957	Espigao-Toca	Brazil	Zili and Ermani	6 men of medium height, in tight-fitting grey clothes	6
24 Oct.,	1960	In virgin forest Province of Salta	Argentine	—	"Cyclopean monster"	1

Total Number of Sightings : 80

Total 153

(3) Statistical Interpretation of the Sightings

If we seek to extract from these records a coherent interpretation of the facts, we must agree first of all to divide these "beings" seen by the eyewitnesses into two groups. On the one hand there are men resembling ourselves, and, on the other hand, dwarfs measuring about 3ft. 6in. in height. The agreement as to this small stature is unanimous. The existence of a third kind of being (giants ,as were seen at Jussy and in the Sierra Gardunha)is supported by only two sightings, and in these cases hoax or an error in perspective may well have been involved. We will keep them however for the record.

We can consequently give a rough description of the foregoing list of sightings by saying that, of the 153 "beings" described in the eyewitnesses' accounts of 80 Type–1 sightings, 4 of the "beings" were giants, 52 were men ,and 44 were dwarfs, while in the remainder of the cases the description was insufficient for making a classification. These are minimum figures. It is to be particularly noted that not once has a being resembling a man been described as wearing a "diver's suit" or a respiratory apparatus* and this fact strikes us as very remarkable. This distinction with regard to the respiratory apparatus seems essential when we attempt to classify the "dwarfs."

If we are to be completely strict in our classification, we must distinguish three categories of "dwarfs," although the possibility is by no means excluded that one of these categories may ultimately be comprised within another. We will distinguish the following:

(a) dwarfs wearing a thick, heavy "diver's suit," armless, whose faces cannot be seen, as at Quarouble.

(b) The dwarfs wearing a light "diver's suit" or light respiratory apparatus, sometimes described as "transparent clothing," like a covering of plastic material, or like a simple mask. These "beings" have human faces. Specifically, this was the case at Lugrin and Fontenay.

(c) The hairy-faced dwarfs, wearing no respiratory apparatus, and corresponding to the description given in the Bois d'Erchin case (see list).

The Quarouble entity is always described as appears as "a phantom in sheet-metal," or even as being like a very broad diver, in an armless diving-suit-. In the eyes of the children, he appears as "a phantom in sheet-metal," or even as "a lump of sugar with the lower half cut in two." In the newspapers he is sometimes termed a "robot." All this suggests a strongly built metallic shell, as would for example be dictated by the necessity for maintaining an atmospheric pressure very different from the one prevailing on the surface of our planet, and indeed for the retention of a gas very different from what we breathe. The "face" of these creatures has never been described, which may possibly be explained by the late hour at which all the sightings in this category have taken place, and by the nature of the creature's "diving-suit" itself. (See figure 1).

A "marked dwarf"

The Fontenay entity seems to be like a man, but of reduced stature. He has a human face, and wears a "diving-suit" with movable upper limbs. Is it perhaps the same kind of being as the Quarouble one, but wearing a lighter suit? He is sometimes described simply as "a helmeted and masked dwarf."

The Erchin entity is, of this series, the only creature reminiscent of Science-Fiction. We cannot reject it, however, for the sightings of this type of entity are comparatively numerous and are very coherent, and some of the eyewitness accounts are extremely good. If such a being exists, it can be well understood that his sudden appearance round a bend in the road could leave on witnesses an impression difficult to forget. The best description that we have of this entity is given by the miner Starovski (aged 33):

The witness was just about to enter the Erchin forest (Bois d'Erchin), which lies some 700 metres N.W. of Erchin itself, when he suddenly beheld, at a distance of 4 metres from himself a being 3ft. 6in. in height, with a large head, wearing a brown skull-cap forming a fillet a few inches or so above the eyes. The eyes were protruding, with a very small iris, and were slit. Long hair fell down from under the skull-cap on to the shoulders. The nose was flat, and the lips were thick and red

The characteristics of these various categories of beings can be summed up in the general table on page 11.

This table represents the totality of the sightings of which we possess details, with the exception of 5 cases in which it seems that there may well have been, if not hoax pure and simple, at least a process of systematic distortion of the occurrence, either by the press, or by the witnesses themselves when under the influence of fear or excitement. These five cases to which we refer are (1) the Flatwood (Virginia) case with its somewhat too fantastic account of a horrible monster 9½ft. in height; (2) the attempted kidnapping at Brovst; (3) the Roverbella incident, the description of which is so vague; (4) the Greenhills dwarf (which was probably only a large bird); and (5) the Everittstown goblin, although his gloves and green hat and deep voice (with a European sound) make him a most elegant looking Martian and certainly a most attractive one! It is to be hoped that these mythical creatures, born of the popular imagination and possessed unquestionably of a very fine artistic value—even though their scientific value is nil — will be studied in greater detail by the psychologists. These modern legends are we may be sure, linked only indirectly to the problem with which we are concerned. But what a fine illustration they provide of the eternal nature of the popular imagination!

We may also note, without however attributing anything more than an indicative value to such considerations, that the "Men" seen in the Type-1 sightings are frequently in groups of more than three, and sometimes indeed in large groups of 6 or 7 during the more recent period. It has been noted too that starting in 1957 in the USA, women have been described as being included in these groups; but this point seems to me rather suspect, and the closeness of the dates at once suggests that

	GIANTS	MEN	DWARFS		
			Heavy " Diver's Suit "	Light " Diver's Suit "	No " Diver's Suit "
Example	**Jussey**	**Chaleix**	**Quarouble**	**Fontenay**	**Erchin**
Definition	Giant of human form; height 2 metres 50	Normal men, unknown language	Wide " Diver's Suit," armless; Face invisible	" Diver's Suit " with arms; Face human	Hairy Dwarf with protruding eyes
Names used by the eyewitnesses and by the newspapers	" Aluminium Men "	" Aluminium Men " or " Luminous Men "	" Robots "; " Phantoms in sheet-metal "; or " Divers "	" Dwarf wearing helmet and mask "	" Hairy Martian " or " Hairy Dwarf "
Words or Sounds		Unknown language, sometimes likened to Russian or German, while Americans regard it as " a broken language, as if they come from Europe "	No Sound	Unintelligible or non-human sounds : " Grunting like pigs "	
Attendant features		Flashing globes, ray-boxes, pistols, etc.		Ball of violet fire ? (uncertain)	None
Average time of day at which seen	No special time	On the whole before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m.	10 p.m.	In the evening	At dawn or in the afternoon or the evening
Psychology	Numerous broad gestures; exuberance	Friendly, Handshakes	Avoid all contact	Demonstrations of friendship, curiosity, hugs	
Number of Beings	4	52	16	60	6
Number of Sightings	2	19	11	29	6
Date of First Appearance	24 Sept., 1954	Described in all periods and epochs	10 Sept., 1954	23 August, 1954	5 October, 1954

the Press may have had something to do with it, or that it was a question of hoaxers. It is however of greater interest to note that the dwarfs in diving-suits are usually seen in twos, while the dwarfs of the " Erchin being " type are always described as being alone.

Time Distribution of the Type–I Sightings

(Based on 211 sightings for which the time is known).

Note: (1) The almost total absence of sightings between 5 a.m. and 7 p.m. (2) The main peak of sightings between 7 and 8 p.m. (3) The secondary peak at dawn.

The decrease in the number of sightings during the night, with the minimum around 2 a.m. and the second peak at dawn clearly corresponds to the average times at which we work and sleep. One might with good reason assume that UFO activity remains constant during the ten night hours between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m., and that we are consequently missing about 50% of the Type–I

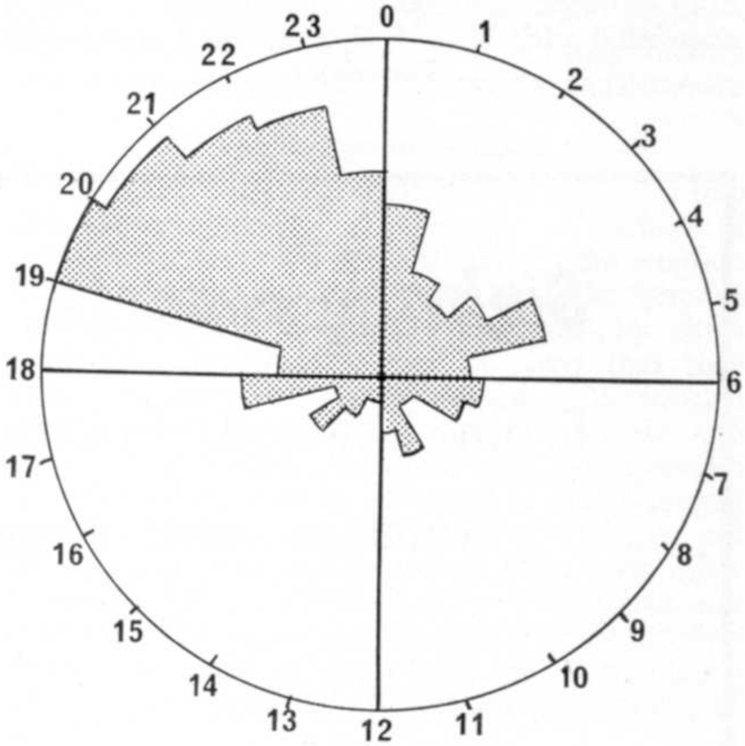


Figure 1

sightings, whereas the sightings of the other types (which are not necessarily nocturnal) are less affected by this selective factor.

According to these statistics, the total number of "landings" that must have occurred on our planet —of which only approximately one half were seen and reported—would be in the neighbourhood of 700. But this figure takes no account of the landings that must take place in the desert regions of the Earth, or in the countries from which we receive but little information.

Map I

Map showing the Main Appearances of MEN associated with Type–I sightings in France. (All Periods).

Map II

Map showing the Appearances of DWARFS, associated with Type–I sightings in France (All Periods).

Sighting reports . . .

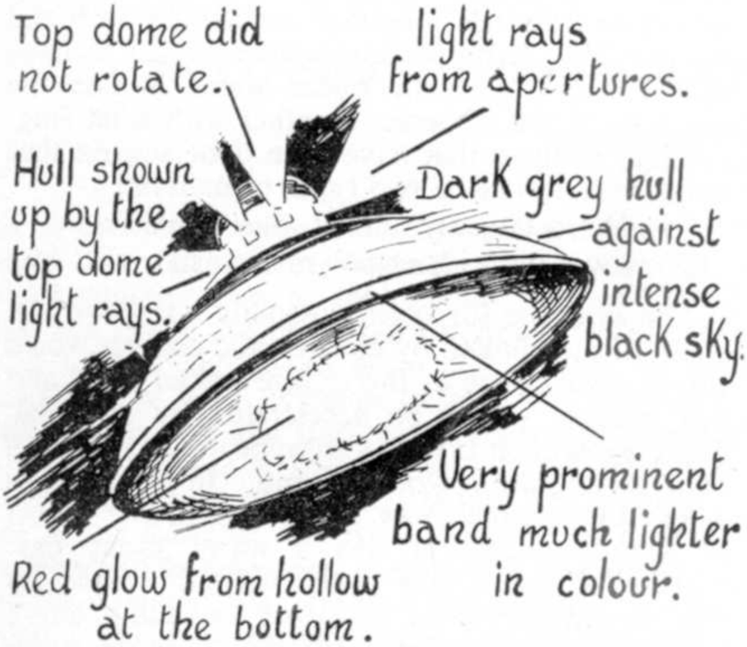
From England, France, the United States of America, the Argentine and Australia

. . . in this issue

SAUCER PHOTOGRAPHS AND SKETCHES

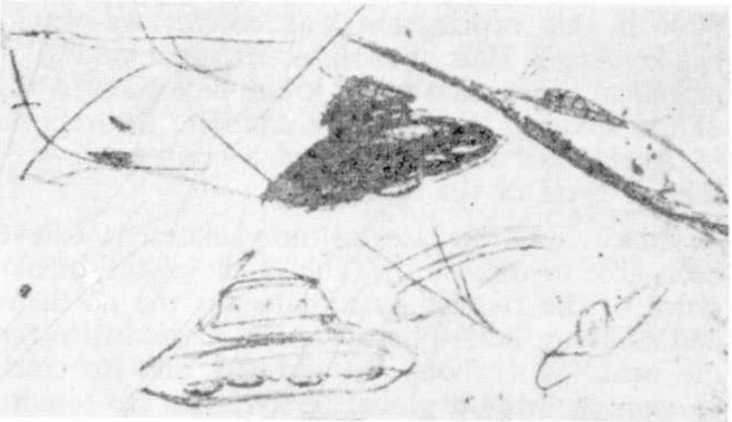
As many of the early books on UFOs are now out of print the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW reproduces the sketches of two controversial sightings from the past for the benefit of those readers who have lately interested themselves in our subject.

IN the September-October, 1963 issue of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW there was produced an orthographic comparison between the Adamski and the Stephen Darbishire photographs prepared by Leonard G. Cramp for his book *Space, Gravity and the Flying Saucer*. Reference was also made to the sighting of Mr. F. W. Potter on October 7, 1953, over Norwich and reported in the *Eastern Evening Press* on the following day. It cannot be denied that Mr. Potter's sketch of what he saw, although it is free-style and done from



According to Mr. F. W. Potter who made this sketch soon after his sighting on October 7, 1953, the object was in fact upside down in the sky as he was viewing the object through a refracting telescope. For the purpose of the comparison, however, the sketch is reproduced exactly as it appeared on the front page of the Eastern Evening News on October 7, 1953.

memory, does bear a remarkable resemblance to Adamski's. Missing are the three-ball landing gear (the object, incidentally, was claimed as being in flight), but the points of similarity are worth noting: 1. A circular cavity at the bottom; 2. A dome rising above it; 3. A tier showing portholes above this; and 4. A further dome at the top. Orthographic comparison is not possible



Stephen Darbishire, then aged 13, drew these sketches before his photograph was developed. The photograph was reproduced in the September-October issue of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW and compared with the Adamski photograph by orthographic projection.

between sketch and photograph, but if we were discussing cars and not saucers, it would have to be agreed that, while all cars have a family likeness, Adamski's, Darbishire's and Potter's objects do seem to come from the same factory and are recognisable as probably the same model.

The Darbishire Sighting

The FLYING SAUCER REVIEW does not claim that this evidence vindicates Adamski. A number of possible explanations are available to the sceptics. It has been noticed, however, that the sceptics are, perhaps subconsciously, worried by these similarities for they attempt to deny that they exist. A more reasonable method of demolition would surely be to claim that Darbishire and Potter have copied Adamski but the question that then remains to be answered is, Did Adamski invent his saucer out of the whole cloth or did he, turn, copy the various details from some other original ? If so, where is it ? To remove any doubt we also reproduce the sketch which Stephen Darbishire made of the object which he claims to have photographed. If Stephen Darbishire and

(Continued on page 15)

ANGEL HAIR

by Peter F. Sharp, B.Sc.

ANGEL Hair is usually explained away by the Menzels of this world as the natural biological phenomenon of flying cobweb. Now if this explanation was correct we would expect Angel Hair to exhibit seasonal and geographical effects that relate to the biological habits of the spider. We will first examine the reports of Angel Hair for evidence of a connection with the life cycle of the spider.

Table 1 lists the cases of the phenomena I have been able to discover. Table 2 shows the breakdown of the reports by months for the northern and southern hemispheres separately and then for the world as a whole. In addition, and for comparison, is listed a global analysis for 30 reports of cigar shaped objects. These were the first 30 cases found on examination of the following — *The Truth About Flying Saucers* by Michel, *Report on Unidentified Flying Objects* by Ruppelt and *Flying Saucer Review,* Vols. 1 & 2.

The table shows that Angel Hair tends to occur in Spring and Autumn with October being especially favoured. By contrast the cigar shaped objects show no strong seasonal preference. Thus Angel Hair exhibits an unusual characteristic for UFOs.

If the places where the phenomenon was reported are examined by latitude it is found that all the cases occur in a belt of latitude 20° wide centered on 37 N or S. Again this is not found for the cigar shaped objects, these are reported from all latitudes from 65N to 42S.

Now we must discover whether the seasonal and geographical peculiarities of Angel Hair coincide with the pattern of behaviour associated with spiders.

According to the *Encyclopedia Brittanica* the aerial dispersion of young spiders coincides in temperate zones with the sunny days of Autumn or of Spring. The article goes on to mention that gossamer threads have been encountered by aeroplanes five miles above sea level and one observer reported that he saw spider threads in the stratosphere.

Chambers Encyclopedia's entry under gossamer is further to the point. Here it mentions that in Autumn the black money spider can reach a density of 200 to the square yard and their activities covers the ground with a sheet of silk. When there is a rapid rise of ground temperature, convection currents evaporate the dew, tear and tangle the silk and carry pieces of it sometimes to great height. Such pieces of web carry no spiders.

If the above was the only evidence Dr. Menzel would have a very strong case indeed. However an analysis of the rest of the evidence weakens his case.

In none of the cases listed in table 1, and the list includes several where scientific tests were carried out (cases 1/55, 2/57, 3/57), was the substance definitely identified with spider web and in case 2/57 X-ray micrographs are said to have shown that it was not spider web. In fact the evidence of the witnesses together with what fragmentary analysis that have been done suggest that Angel Hair is one of two types of material —

(*a*) electrostatically united dust particles

(*b*) a weakly bonded polymeric material.

The evidence for both is equally attractive. A chain of dust linked by electrostatic charges would slowly disintegrate as the charge leaked away and this process would be accelerated by handling. Thus we explain the slow disappearance of Angel Hair leaving not a wrack behind. In all the cases where the weather was mentioned in the report of the occurrence it was a warm sunny day. Electrostatic attraction of the strength needed for this explanation does not work on damp days; but we must also remember that it is on warm days that cobwebs take to the air.

The polymer theory can be made to fit the facts perfectly, if not satisfactorily, by attributing to the polymer just those properties necessary to explain the properties of the Hair. For example in case 6/54 it is reported that, on stretching, the Hair took on a shiny appearance and did not tear. If the polymer was composed of twisted or helical chains of atoms then on stretching these would align and produce a more crystalline shiny structure, not unlike some of the synthetic polymers produced today. As the threads did not return to their original shape the polymer chains are unlike those in rubber.

Again in case 6/54 the Hair was reported as leaving a slight green stain, an occurrence unique in these cases. If the polymer, or the electrostatically united dust, was created in an atmosphere containing a little copper dust then this could have given a green verdigris stain on the hands.

Thus at present there is insufficient evidence fully to explain all aspects of the phenomenon. Dr. Menzel is in an exceptional strong position and anyone attempting to provide an explanation alternative to cobwebs must, at the same time, explain the unusual temporal and geographical distribution of the phenomenon. On the other hand the cobweb pundits must explain those properties of the Hair that are not like those of webs and, most important of all, explain why UFOs are seen in a high percentage of Angel Hair cases.

TABLE 2

	North Hemi. Angel Hair	*South Hemi. Angel Hair*	*Global Angel Hair*	*Global Cigars*
J	0	0	0	2
F	3	0	3	1
M	0	0	0	4
A	0	2	2	1
M	0	1	1	2
J	0	0	0	1
J	0	0	0	6
A	1	1	2	5
S	1	1	2	4
O	12	1	13	3
N	6	0	6	0
D	0	0	0	1
			29	30

SAUCER PHOTOGRAPHS AND SKETCHES

(Continued from page 13)

his cousin were telling the truth, then there is proof that they saw an Adamski-type saucer. It is, of course, open to the sceptic to deny that they are telling the truth, but he should be honest with himself and make quite certain that he is doubting the boys' evidence in itself: Too many disbelievers give the impression that they doubt it merely because it goes to support Adamski.

The FLYING SAUCER REVIEW would like to thank Mr. Ralph Raukow, NICAP's photographic expert in New York who sent a series of fake photographs showing Adamski-type photographs in full flight These, of course, prove nothing and beg the question. It is always possible to fake photographs. The objects resemble Adamski's, but they do not deceive: they are obviously models super-imposed upon a background. Adamski's photographs do show an object that looks to have been manufactured with some precision. The photographs submitted resemble clumsy plastic models. Until the evidence cited above can be more successfully disposed of, a mystery remains. The FLYING SAUCER REVIEW thinks the matter of great importance and the Adamski photographs constitute a challenge even if the rest of his claims are proved to be false.

PIG-HEADED SCIENTISTS

" Scientists are quite as ordinary, pig-headed, and unreasonable as anyone else, and their unusually high intelligence only makes their prejudices all the more dangerous."

Professor H. J. Eysenck quoted in the London **Daily Express.**

UFOs and the FOURTH DIMENSION: Part 2

by Luis Shoenherr

IN my article "UFOs and Fourth Dimension" in the March-April, 1963, issue of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW I outlined four hypotheses concening the nature of the UFO phenomenon :

1. UFOs are some sort of machine emanating from a region of the cosmos unobservable in our space-time continuum. They use a fourth dimension to travel into regions of the cosmos observable to us.
2. UFOs originate in our space-time continuum but voyage outside it (using the fourth dimension).
3. UFOs are "four dimensional structures" and that part of the UFO observable to us is the three dimensional projection of the strncture in that part of the cosmos observable to us.
4. UFOs may be time machines (this assumes that the fourth dimension is time).

At present it seems me that it is impossible to decide which of these hypotheses is correct and, in addition, hypotheses 1, 2 and 3 are not mutually exclusive.

In this article, I should like to consider the concept of a fourth dimension with regard to certain rather enigmatic observational features. At the present stage of our inquiry it will not matter in principle whether the fourth dimension is a special dimension completely imperceptible to us, or whether the seriality which we call "time" is merely the form in which we perceive the fourth dimension. However it appears that the following arguments may especially fit the hypotheses 1, 2 and 3.

The observational facts we are here concerned with are the following :

a. What appear to be diffuse luminous objects, similar to the phenomenon of ball-lightning. behave as if they were under intelligent control. Classical observations of this type are the so called "foo-fighters."

b. In some cases, objects of this type have been shot at without any effect. They seemed to be invulnerable.

c. Benedicks has tried to apply the ball lighting theory to the UFO phenomenon. In order to explain the fact that UFOs often change course and fly away when fighter planes appear on the scene, he put forward the interesting hypothesis outlined below. If an aircraft is approaching a ball lightning the induced air movement from the propeller will cool off parts of the ball of electrically charged gas. This will in turn cause a static discharge the reaction from which repells the ball away from the aircraft thus creating the impression that the object is "fleeing" from it. Now as everyone can demonstrate for himself at an airport, the air movement does not extend very far ahead of even a stationary aircraft. If the craft is in rapid motion, one might expect its range to be considerably smaller. This means, that a pursuing aircraft would have to come dangerously close to a ball lighting, before the induced air movement could have any effect at all. I therefore suggest that this hypothesis gives too much credit to the effect of the induced air movement since there are very few reports which would lead one to think that such a close approach has occurred. In addition, we must not forget the UFOs have often changed their course to approach aircraft and to accompany them for minutes after slowing down near the plane.

In some cases UFOs of the luminous type have been shot at without any effect. It is impossible to explain this by the ball lightning hypothesis. A lightning ball is a very unstable structure and therefore often destroyed by the slightest disturbance. I can hardly imagine ball lightning being shot at (and hit) and not become unstable and therefore dispersing or exploding. This feature of the UFO reports would be better explained by the mirage hypothesis of Dr. Menzel (2). But according to Menzel the often reported intelligently controlled movements would have to be regarded as almost purely coincidental, an assumption which seems equally far fetched. There are yet other reasons why the mirage hypothesis is not very probable (3). The following two reports clearly indicate that both of the hypotheses mentioned above completely fail to explain the facts.

On March 25, 1942 an R.A.F. bomber after having bombed the city of Essen in the Ruhr, was followed for five minutes by an orange glow-

ing object over the Zuider Zee. The rear gunner fired several rounds at it without any effect (4).

Another, even more astonishing report comes from the other of the then belligerent parties. In autumn 1944, some months before the allies on the western frontiers were puzzled by the appearance of the foo-fighters, a German anti-aircraft battery near Warszwa fired at an UFO. The glow-stopped abruptly over the battery whereupon its ing, circular object appeared in the night and light dimmed. The rangefinder indicated its altitude at 10,800 metres. Despite heavy firing from all guns it descended vertically to 3,200 metres. Then, it suddenly became blindingly bright. Flames appeared around its circumference and on its underside while it shot upward and withdrew from the battery. Its exact speed could not be obtained because of the extremely high acceleration, but it was in the region of 1,300 kilometres per hour (5). Now let us see how far the theory of a fourth dimension can help us to understand these facts. As we are apparently three dimensional beings and unaccustomed to the conception of a fourth dimension, I shall use a simple analogy to explain my hypothesis. In fig. 1 our space is represented by the plane b and the hypothetical space in which the UFO is moving by the plane c-d. We have for the purpose of our consideration the two three dimensional continuum reduced to planes. The remaining dimension n will be taken as the fourth dimension. If we agree, that all physical events which take place in c-d are strictly confined to this space, the UFO is visible to the pilot of the aircraft in a-b, only if n becomes zero.

This is but one possibility. Now suppose that the force field created by the propulsion system of the UFO is not merely confined to space c-d, but has also a component C extending into the fourth dimension n. We could conceive of this component as of a four dimensional structure as already in hypothesis 3. (see fig. 2). As we know from countless observations, the luminescence in

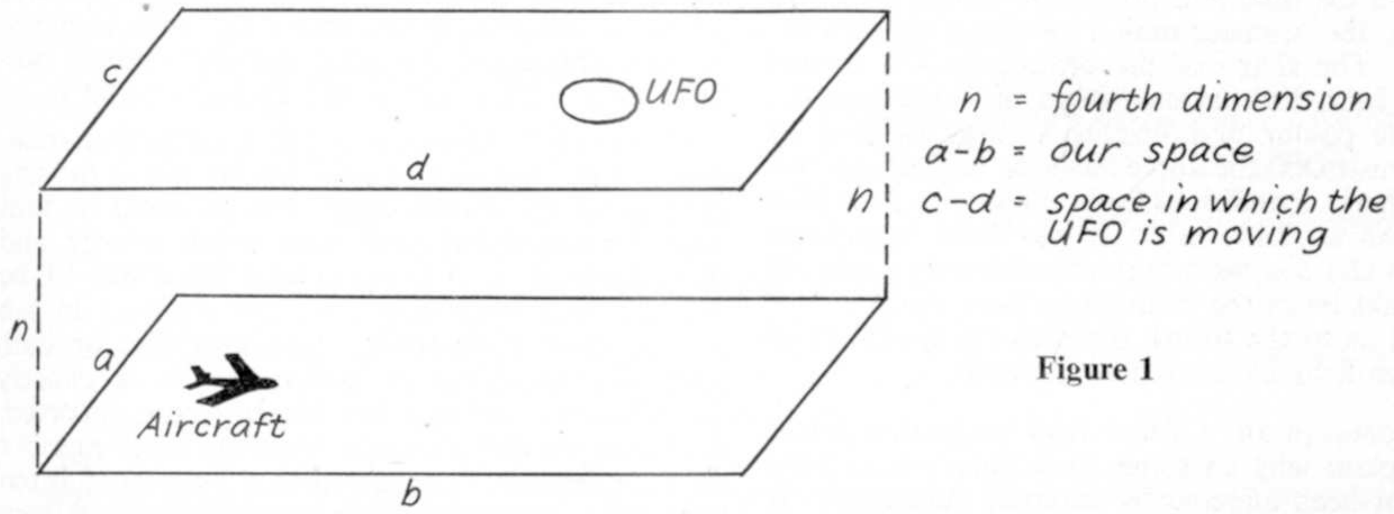


Figure 1

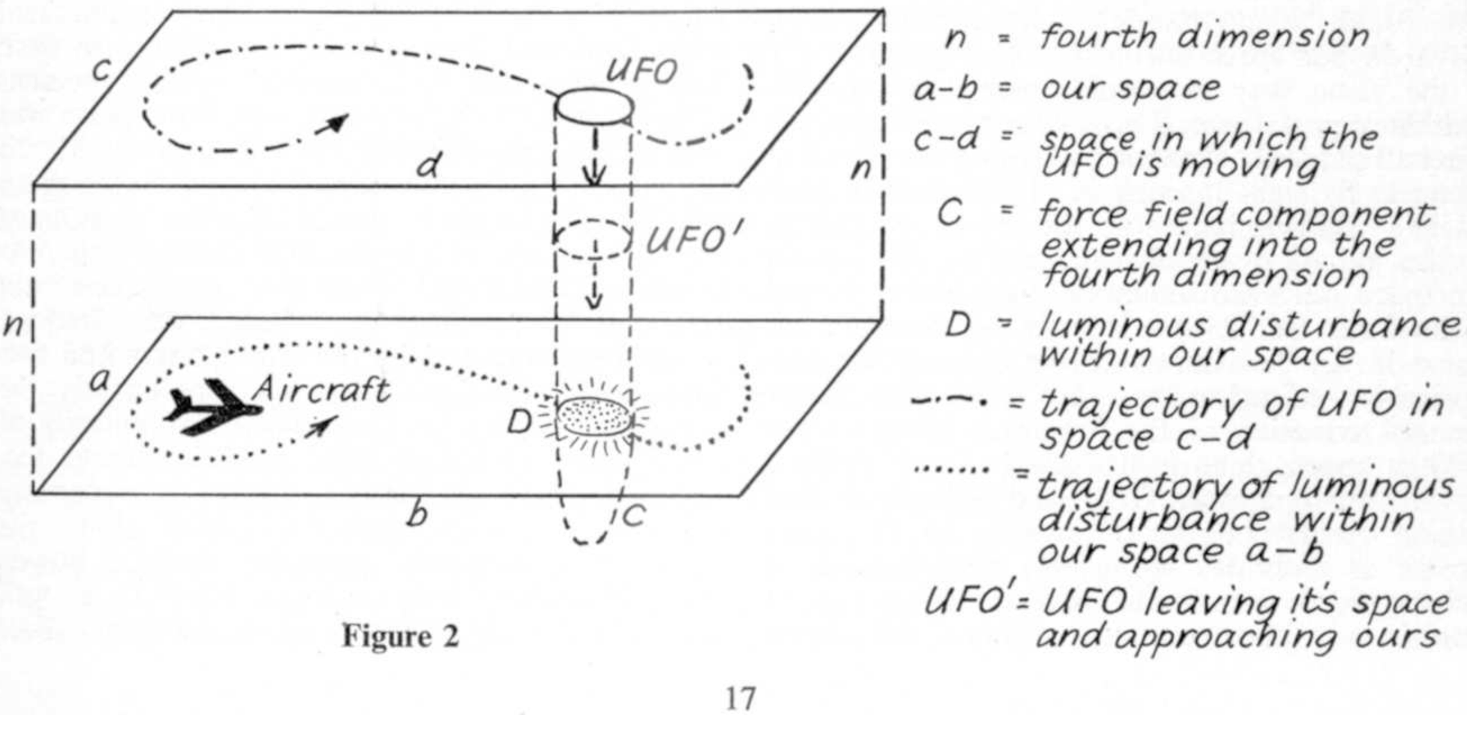


Figure 2

the atmosphere surrounding the UFO alters in colour and brightness with velocity. This indicates that this effect is caused by the propulsive force and this force in turn is very likely a field force (6). It is therefore possible also to attribute the capacity to cause luminescenece also to the force field component C (see fig. 2). But this means that the UFO itself does not necessarily need to enter our space a-b in order to produce a visible effect therein. It would be sufficient for n to become small enough for the force field component C to penetrate our space a-b. This would cause a luminescence to appear in our space without the UFO itself being present. If now the UFO exercises intelligently controlled manoeuvres in its space c-d the luminous projection caused by it will perform the transformation of these movements in a-b. The shape of the projection will depend on the four dimensional shape of component C, while its colour and brightness may depend on the intensity of the force field as well as on our atmospheric conditions (air pressure, humidity etc.). As we know these shapes from experience (spheres and discoids are most commonly reported) we should be in the position to draw certain conclusions as to the fourth dimensional geometry of the force field by analytical methods.

The concept of a force field projection could also explain why in some cases such phenomena have not been affected by external influences. It would have practically no effect if the gunner of the aircraft in a-b fired at the disturbance B, because the conditions which produce the luminescence are maintained by the force field, as long as the UFO stays in the vicinity of our space. Only if the UFO withdraws, thereby increasing n will the projection disappear and this disappearance could be as sudden as its appearance on arrival in our space during the approach (4), (7). In the same way we could understand the incredible report from Russia according to which a fireball suddenly expanded, allowing the pursuing fighter to fly right through it. It could have been a UFO, shifting back into the fourth dimension, as the situation became dangerous, leaving in our space only the luminous disturbance caused by its force field (16). It must be remembered, that n in fig. 2 is imperceptible to us. Our perception is confined to space a-b. One must therefore not conceive of the luminous effect or the UFO as approaching from " above " or " below." It will really appear from and disappear into nothing amidst our space, exactly in the same manner as described by several observers. It is perhaps worth mentioning that this phenomenon could in principle even occur within a completely closed three-dimensional space, e.g. a room, because it is as much " open " with regard to the fourth dimension, as a plane is open with regard to the third dimension (8). As the intensity of the force field component C will gradually increase as space c-d is approached, the luminescence within our space will grow in intensity and diameter as n becomes smaller. But, if the UFO itself is entering our space, its operator will have to reduce the force field intensity, if he wants to stay therein. Thus the luminescence will reach its maximum just before the UFO materialises itself in our space. The observer of such a materialisation would therefore perceive at first a luminous mass appearing in our space. It would grow in diameter and intensity. Then he would perceive a sudden dimming of the light and, as the luminescence decreased in intensity, the well defined outline of the UFOs hull would appear behind it.

If the UFO exercises no parallel motion relative to the dimensions of our space, but is moving only along the fourth dimension (it could be that such movements require very much energy and that therefore all the propelling force has to be directed into this dimension) the observer in a-b will perceive a stationary luminous disc or ball, gradually changing its diameter. It is exactly this phenomenon that has already been reported. As far as we can conclude from the small number of such reports, it seems that it has more often been seen when the UFO was withdrawing from our space than when trying to enter into it (9).

As an illustration I quote here a report from Ehrwald, Tyrol. On March 26, 1950, at 9.45 a.m. an observer on the Zugapitze saw a disc-like object approaching in an undulating flight from the east. Suddenly the object stopped and reduced its size by 50%. After this it accelerated very fast and disappeared to west-north-west. The phenomenon was observed by four persons (10). The same occurrence at the same place was seen on March 27, 1950, at 9.45 a.m. on March 28, at 10.05 a.m. and on March 30, at 9.45 a.m. again On this occasion, it should also be mentioned that the report, which was from an German AA-battery, also stated that the object had not appeared for the first time when it was fired at. It has been reported by the five spotters and two days before the incident, always at exactly the same time of day ! One thinks involuntarily of the 24-hour cycles detected by Michel and the, perhaps not so speculative, suggestions regarding the repeated appearance of UFOs along the orthotenic alignments made by Charles Bowen (12). Have the observers near Warazwa as well as on the Zugspitze witnessed the luminous effect

caused by the UFOs four dimensional force field during its withdrawal from our space, or during repeated (and perhaps unsuccessful) attempts to enter it?

An alternative and very simple explanation to account for the change in size is that it is only a variation in apparent size. If an object moves along a straight line which intersects with the position of the observer, he would have exactly the same impression as mentioned above, due to the change in distance between himself and the object. But I think that we should not accept this explanation too readily. We know that the vast majority of all UFO observations are purely accidental. If now at the time a UFO is operating

there are indications that force fields are in general of four-dimensional structure.

This concept is not entirely speculative and there is perhaps a possibility of proving of a fourth dimension as well as the existence of four-dimensional fields. There are various reports of radar observations during which the scanner has picked up targets which could not be seen although they should have been within the range of visual observation. Experienced radar operators have definitely ruled out the possibility that there may have been weather targets or ground clutter reflections. Have these mysterious echoes been coming from objects in another space via the fourth dimension? If radar pulses are not confined to

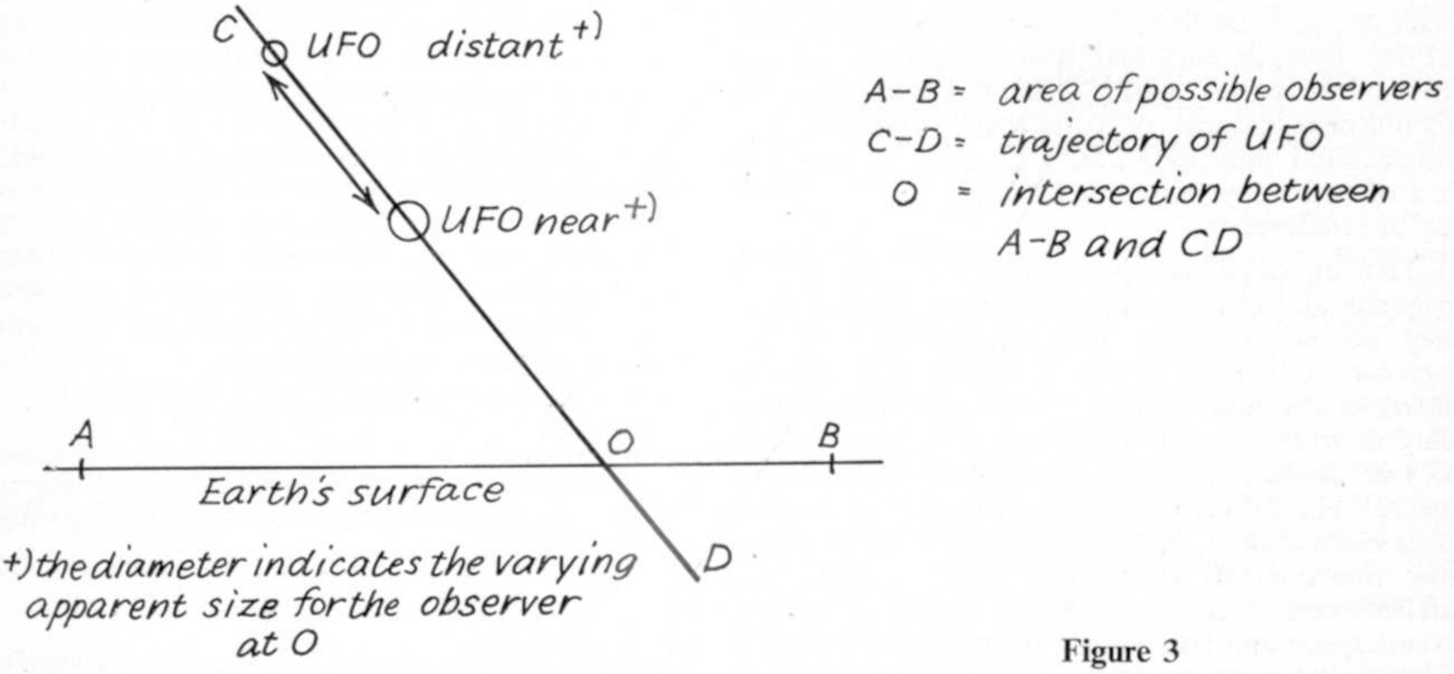


Figure 3

coincidentally along a straight course one person in the area of possible observers between a-b (see fig. 3) is looking to the sky (and coincidentally in the proper direction) it would seem that only rarely would that person be situated at the intersection between AB and CD. However, scientific inquiry into this problem could be based only on statistics or on theodolite triangulations and simultaneous measurements of the apparent size. Unfortunately, we have in the first place, insufficient observations of this type and in the second place, as far as I know, no exact measurements.

There are other arguments which one can quote in favour of the existence of such a four dimensional UFO force field. The first follows from my hypothesis that UFOs travel in the fourth dimension. If the propelling force vector of every craft has to act in the dimension in which the craft is to be moved the force field of a UFO will have to extend into the fourth dimension. Secondly

our three dimensional space we must conclude that a certain amout of the energy emitted by the scanner escapes into the fourth dimension, and is lost.

It may be possible to design an experimental device accurate enough to measure this energy deficit. The experimental arrangement would have to consist of a radar sender and a receiver. Precautions would have to be taken that — as far as our three dimensions are concerned — all the energy emitted by the sender could be absorbed by the antenna of the receiver. Perhaps one could take advantage of a similar arrangement to that for the measurement of luminous flux. Here the light source is placed within a reflecting sphere, and the light energy is allowed to leave it only through a small opening, where the measurements are taken. If, then, a difference between the calculated antenna output of the sender and the antenna input of the receiver

occured, which could not be accounted for by causes already known (losses in the circuits and through reflection, transformation into heat, etc.) this would be a serious challenge for exact science.

Provided that the conditions under which the experiment is conducted are properly controlled, we would, in such a case, have either to drop the law of conservation of energy, or accept the existence of a fourth dimension. I regard the first as unacceptable, so the energy law would have to be extended a further dimension, as it has already been extended in the case of mass.

I have yet to mention the possibility of a connection between my hypothesis and orthoteny. It was suggested in Mr. Bowen's recent article (12) in which he wrote " materialization can only take place along fixed lines, or routes, where their (the UFOs) four dimensional space impinges on our three dimensional world." If it is true, that the geometrical pattern of orthoteny implies a four dimensional interpretation, then I think, that the fact of orthoteny points in principle to the following alternatives :

a) That although the space from which the UFOs originate and our own are both three dimensional, they do not intersect but are curved and are together embedded within a higher four dimensional continuum (whose fourth dimension possibly is what we call "time"), e.g. as the surfaces of two spheres situated in a three dimensional space. The UFOs and their crews are, as we are, three dimensional, but unlike us they have somehow managed to leave their three dimensional environment to travel along the fourth dimension to our space and back. The orthotenic alignments indicate those areas (or chronological sequence of areas) from which the distance to the space occupied by UFOs is a minimum. I also suspect that here we may have the terminations of those UFO-trajectories, which require the smallest amount of energy.

As the extensive research done by Michel has revealed, the great circles along which UFOs appear generally remain stationary for 24 hours. Then, to complicate things further, a changeover takes place. This would indicate a (periodic?) change (13) in the relative position of the two spaces, which would consequently result in a movement of those areas where we could expect UFOs to arrive (or depart) within our space.

b) The alignments of orthoteny are the result of an intersection between two different continua as suggested by Mr. Bowen,

Both of these possibilities present difficult questions as to the relationships between the continua involved. At the moment, only one thing seems to be certain. Any spatial area (be it the result of an intersection or not) which would permit a UFO to materialise within it, would have to be not less than three dimensional, because a structure of an inferior dimensional order could never manifest any physical reality such as does matter. The orthotenic great circles may therefore be either narrow three dimensional channels, or single, isolated materialisation areas (14), arranged along great circles, either simultaneously or in a time sequence as suggested in (a).

The true form of this arrangement in time and space would depend entirely on the dimensional order, shape, relative angle and motion of the two continua. Although I am no mathematician, I think it should in principle be possible by a proper geometrical analysis of the orthotenic alignments to draw some conclusions as to the structure of the space behind it. Any progress in this direction could be important since if such natural materialisation areas exist (15) they are possibly not one way traffic roads. Indeed, if we can solve the technical problems of travel between different continua, they may some day permit an earthly craft to leave our space in search for the world from which the UFOs are coming.

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(1) C. Benedicks
" Theory of Ball Lighting and its Application to the Atmospheric Phenomenon Called 'Flying Saucers' ".
Arkiv för Geofysik, Vol. 2, Nr. 1, Stockholm 1952.

(2) Donald Menzel.
Flying Saucers

(3) Aimé Michel
The Truth about Flying Saucers
Part 3 of this book contains a consideration of the mirage-theory of Dr. Menzel.

(4) Gordon W. Creighton
" Foo-Fighters "
Flying Saucer Review, March-April, 1962.

(5) An eye witness report of this incident was published on April 5, 1950, by the reliable Austrian provincial newspaper *Tiroler Tageszeitung*, Innsbruck. As I was then a hardened sceptic I failed to trace the witness in time. Later, when I became interested in the subject I was told by the editor that the report had been destroyed soon after publication.

(6) Leonard G. Cramp
" A Challenge to the Technical Press "
Flying Saucer Review, January-February, 1963.
See also
Plantier
" La Propulsion des Soucoupes Volantes "
A chapter on Plantier's theory can be found in the book quoted under (3)

(7) H. T. Wilkins
Flying Sauncers on the Moon, Chapter 2.
(The American edition carries the title, *Flying Saucers on the Attack*.

(Continued on page 23)

SPACEMEN IN ANTIQUITY

by W. R. Drake

"DURING the era of Sulla (83 B.C.) a great clash of standards and of arms with dreadful shouting was heard between Capua and Volturnum, so that two armies seemed to be locked in combat for several days. When men investigated this marvel more closely, the tracks of horses and of men and the freshly trampled grass and shrubs seemed to foretell the burden of a huge war."

(Julius Obsequens. *Prodigiorum Libellus*).

This wonder chronicled by Julius Obsequens in his fascinating *Prodigiorum Libellus* at once evokes that prodigy of July 16th, 1963, when the people of Britain were startled by a mysterious crater, which appeared overnight in a barley and potato field at Manor Farm, Charlton, Wiltshire. Rumours of a spaceship landing from Uranus promptly goaded official experts into allaying public alarm by attributing the phenomenon to a meteorite, which, alas, could not be found, forcing officialdom to an admission the incident was a complete mystery.

Evidence from the Past

Research into the Classics reveals that the phenomenon is nothing new for Julius Obsequens in the first century before Christ dredged six centuries of Latin records collating scores of mysterious incidents. Each age interprets unusual events in the language of its own experience, whether it be Ezekiel describing spaceships in the symbology of angels and precious jewels, Monk Lawrence in 776 A.D. marvelling at flaming shields from heaven spitting fire at the Saxons besieging Sigiburg, or our controversial Adamski explaining his scoutship from Venus in the scientific terminology of today. To the practical Romans of 83 B.C., the scorched, blackened area devastated by the forcefield of a spaceship landing would probably appear in retrospect like a miniature battlefield, the clash of arms and shouting no doubt some reference to the noise of propulsion. That the occurrence was no real skirmish is obvious enough and battles during the bloody civil wars of first century Rome were as common as road accidents to us; the braggard Roman hardly accounted his martial deeds as marvels even when he won. Imagine the amazement of the Capuans finding outside their city a battlefield where no human had fought.

Maybe this example from Julius Obsequens will not itself convince our own sceptics, who fall over backwards to prove that spaceships must be some aberration in the human mind, yet for all our concern with celestial phenomena it is highly doubtful whether the Wiltshire crater will be remembered next year and most unlikely two milennia after the occurrence.

Happily, Julius Obsequens, that Charles Fort of Antiquity, foresaw our dilemma and obligingly recorded an incident in 163 B.C., not wholly dissimilar to the Capuan and Wiltshire happenings. In his terse language he summarised:

"In the consulship of Tiberius Gracchus and Manius Juventus at Capua the sun was seen by night. At Formice two suns were seen by day. The sky was afire. In Cephallenia a trumpet seemed to sound from the sky. There was a rain of earth. A windstorm demolished houses and laid crops flat in the field. By night an apparent sun shone at Pisaurum."

Interpreted in our flying saucer context, this simple statement hints at spaceships in the heavens and landings on our earth. Unbelievers may disagree but bald-headed Julius penning is scroll for posterity lived two thousand years nearer to the events than we do and had no doubt that marvels had happened.

Now that astronomers have recanted their former nihilism and proclaim the belief that life exists throughout the universe, which is precisely what the Ancients thought long ago, speculation naturally exists as to whether spacemen could have landed on Earth in ages past. Logic suggests that the old Gods of Egypt, Greece, Rome, Scandinavia and Mexico, were not disembodied spirits or anthropomorphic symbolism of natural forces but actual supermen from the skies, who lived and loved on our planet in that Golden Age sung by the poets.

Appolodorus wrote "Sky was the first who ruled over the whole world." Diodorus Siculus declared:

" These five Deities, they say, visit all the inhabited world revealing themselves to men." Emperor Julian vowed: " We must believe that on this world of generation certain Gods alighted." Aeschylus, Euripedes, Aristophanes, Plautus and Menander, frequently introduced a " Deus ex Machina," to untangle the plots of their plays. Aristotle, Plato, Pliny, Lucretius and most other philosophers, believed the Gods were Supermen living just out of sight.

What the Sceptic Believes

But the sceptic today who believes only what he sees or the misleading facts officialdom doles these old stories will not shake his fond belief out to him, may grow impatient and declare that—that he himself is the crowning Creation of Nature on the sole abode of life in a sterile universe. If Adamski's claims are derided, can we really hope to persuade the unbeliever that extra-terrestrials did land in ancient times ? The evidence ? Where is the evidence in black and white ? Why have we not been told ? For two thousand years we have been told by nearly all the greatest intellects of Greece and Rome. Most of the records of antiquity were destroyed by fire, or by fanatical Christians and megalomaniac Pagans, yet more evidence of extra-terrestrial intervention exists in the Classics than in all the fantasies of Adamski and his tribe. The evidence is there before our eyes. Will no one read it ?

Cicero in *Of the Nature of the Gods,* Book 1, Chap. 2, writes :

". . . And this is not to be imputed to chance or folly but to the frequent appearance of the Gods themselves. In the war with the Latins (498 B.C.) when Aulus Posthumus, the Dictator, attacked Octavius Mamilius, the Tusculan, at Regillus, Castor and Pollux were seen fighting in our army on horseback, and since that same offspring of Tyndarus gave notice of the defeat for as P. Vatienus, the grandfather of the present young man of that name, was coming in the night to Rome from his government of Reate, two young men on white horses appeared to him and told him that King Perses was that day taken prisoner . . . Nor do we forget when the Locrians defeated the people of Crotone in a great battle on the banks of the river Sagra, that it was known the same day at the Olympic Games. The voices of the Fauns have often been heard and Deities have appeared in forms so visible that they have compelled every one, who is not senseless or hardened in impiety, to confess the presence of the Gods."

All Romans fervently believed that two strange horsemen, exceedingly tall and above the stature of men, saved the day for Posthumus at Lake Regillus and that the same day at evening both miraculously appeared in the Forum, alike in age, height and beauty, and announced the great victory and departed never to be seen by men again.

About 325 B.C. in yet another war between Rome and her neighbours, Livy in Book VIII, Chapter 11, reported :

" There in the stillness of the night both Consuls are said to have been visited by the same apparition, a man of greater than human stature and more majestic, who declared that the Commander of one side and the army of the other must be offered up to the Manes and to Mother Earth."

While this mysterious person was attempting to enforce peace on unruly Rome, two of his spaceships were buzzing Alexander the Great during the latter's epic invasion of India. A contemporary historian described how two shining silvery shields spitting fire around the rims dived repeatedly on the Greek columns, stampeding horses and elephants and then returned to the skies; a striking parallel with those flaming shields which in 776 A.D. rescued Charlemagne's Knights in Sigiburg from the besieging Saxons. We are interested to learn that the Zoroastrian priests of Persia told Alexander that the wings carved over tombs, emblems of Osiris in Egypt and Marduk in Babylon, represented the 'Eagle dwelling near the Sun,' whose 'spirit' or 'Simurg' descended to hilltops to men. The Simurg or celestial dragon became the symbol of China, perpetuated as a griffin then an eagle in the coats-of-arms of our European monarchies.

A Sign From Above

Julius Caesar, boasting descent from Venus, when brooding beside the Rubicon in 52 B.C. naturally sought guidance from the Gods. According to Suetonius in *Lives of the Caesars. Julius Caesar*, Chapter 32 :

" As he stood in two minds an apparition of superhuman size and beauty was seen sitting on the river bank playing a reed pipe. A party of shepherds gathered around to listen and when some of Caesar's men broke ranks to do the same, the apparition snatched a trumpet, blew a thunderous blast and crossed over. Caesar exclaimed 'Let us accept this as a sign from the Gods and follow where they beckon in vengeance on our double-dealing enemies. The die is cast !,"

Caesar marched on Rome, confounded his enemies and took upon his broad shoulders the

mantle of Dictator until those fatal Ides of March. Dion Cassius in his *Roman History* for 48 B.C. declared :

" Thunderbolts had fallen upon Pompey's camp., a fire had appeared in the air over Caesar's camp and had fallen upon Pompey's . . . In Syria two young men announced the result of the battle (in Thessally) and vanished." (Book 4, page 103).

In his *Jewish War*, Book III, Josephus describing the Siege of Jerusalem about 70 A.D. wrote :

" On the twenty first of May a demonic phantom of incredible size, and what will be related would have seemed a fairy tale had it not been told by those who saw it, and been attended by suffering worthy of the portent. For before sunset there appeared in the air over the whole country chariots and armed troops coursing through the clouds and surrounding cities."

The following quotations from Dion Cassius fascinate the UFO student :

193 A.D. " Three men attempted to seize control of affairs, Severus, Niger and Albinus . . . These then were the three men portended by the three stars that suddenly came to view surrounding the sun, when Emperor Julianus in our presence was offering the Sacrifices of Entrance in front of the Senate House. These stars were so very distinct that the soldiers kept continually looking at them and pointing them out to one another declaring that some dreadful fate would befall the Emperor." (Book LXXIV. p.151).

A.D. 217. " In Rome moreover a ' spirit ' having the appearance of a man led an ass up to the Capitol and afterwards to the palace seeking its master as he claimed, and stating that Antoninus was dead and Jupiter was now Emperor. Upon being arrested for this and sent by Mstermianus to Antoninus he said ' I go as you bid but I shall face not this Emperor but another.' And when he reached Capua he vanished."

When we recall that Romulus was translated to heaven by a whirlwind while giving judgement on the Palatine Hill, that his successor, Numa Pompilius, used magic weapons, and that Livy, Pliny the Elder and Julius Obsequens, tell of mysterious voices, celestial trumpets, men in white garments hovering in airships, several suns and moons together, sudden new stars, and superhuman apparitions descending among men then vanishing, we suddenly feel as though we were reading the wonders of the Bible. By some strange twist of the human mind we worship prodigies in old Palestine as manifestations of the Lord yet we scoff at identical phenomena at the same time in Ancient Rome a few hundred miles away. Similar prodigies are chronicled throughout the Middle Ages and by the flying saucer lore of today.

This accumulated evidence of extra-terrestrial intervention throughout all recorded history surely fits together a blinding revelation completely revolutionising our egocentric, earth-based conception of human development.

(Continued from page 20)

(8) For a demonstration of this one might refer to de Vrie's
Die Vierte Dimension
1926

(9) See my article " UFOs and fourth Dimension " FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, March-April, 1963, page 12.

(10) For similar events, see the Fort Hood sighting reported in FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, November-December, 1961, and a report quoted by Wilkins in *Flying Saucers on the Moon*, page 71.

(11) H. T. Wilkins
Flying Saucers on the Moon
Reports on radar discontinuities, page 80.

(12) Charles Bowen
" Time, Saucers and the Fourth Dimension "
FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, May-June 1963.

(13) Is there a connection with the findings of Aimé Michel by rotation of two orthotenic networks around a common centre ?
Michel: *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery*, page 149.

(14) In his book on orthoteny Aimé Michel points out that the alignments do not correspond to a real trajectory, in that the same alignment belongs to different objects and he asks: " What do the objects do between two observation points ?"
This clearly favours the second possibility.

(15) It seems that Charles Fort already supposed the existence of materialisation areas which he called " appearing points ", but curiously enough, he did not give much credit to the theory of a fourth dimension.
Charles Fort: *The Books of Charles Fort.*

(16) Gordon W. Creighton
" Amazing News from Russia "
FLYING SAUCER REVIEW, November-December, 1962.

PERSONAL COLUMN

FLYING SAUCER REVIEW: 1958, Nos. 2, 4, 5 and 6. Vols. 5 to 8, (1959-1962) complete, £2 carriage paid. Allen, 154, Podbrook Road, Malvern, Worcs.

World round-up

of news and comment about recent sightings

ENGLAND

Huddersfield UFOs

From the *Huddersfield Examiner,* September 27, 1963: "Mr. James L. Brooke, 33, Birkby Lodge Road, was in his garden shortly after thalf - past seven this morning when he saw two strange circular objects, apparently attached to each other, in the sky.

"They shone quite brightly, like a couple of stars, he said. They were not travelling very fast, but kept in a perfectly straight course towards the east. I turned to go into the house to get some binoculars, but when I looked round again they had disappeared.

"Mr. Brooke, who has served in the R.A.F., said he had never seen any objects like them before."

Round silver object

From the *Nottingham Evening Post,* September 16: "A Nottingham couple today were still puzzling over a large, round, silver object they saw drifting high in the sky over the city at the weekend. Mr. John Derry, of 29 Albert Avenue, Bobbers Mill, saw the object first at 5.45 on Saturday afternoon (September 14) while he was in the back yard at his home playing with his two-year-old daughter, Karen.

"He called to his wife, who was in the house, and she also saw the silver object in the sky. We were very curious because we had never seen anything like it before, she said today.

"It couldn't have been a plane, she added. It wasnt moving fast enough, although it was moving fairly swiftly. We wondered if it could have been a weather balloon, but it seemed too big. From its height and the size it appeared to be, we estimated it must have been about 15 or 18 feet across.

"The weather station at Watnall, who said that none of their equipment would fit the description, provided a possible solution to the mystery. They said that it could have been a radio sonde balloon, although the nearest operated from Liverpool and Cardington, Bedfordshire. The balloons are carried along by the upper winds and have been known to drift over this country from as far away as Northern Ireland. They are equipped with a tail in which the equipment is housed and, with the sun shining on them, could well look like the object seen by Mr. and Mrs. Derry."

Crumpsall saucer

The *Manchester Evening News* on September 10 reported that: "Hospital worker Mr. Elgar Thomas, of Celia Street, Lower Crumpsall, Manchester, believes he saw a flying saucer travelling over Crumpsall towards Prestwich. He said today it was very large and round, flying silently at tremendous speed. Before he lost sight of it, it stopped in its tracks, shot even farther skywards, and disappeared.

"Mr. Thomas added: It appeared about a mile high. It was about three times the size of an average plane and seemed to have dovetail wings. My wife also saw it when I called her out of the house."

Teeside visitor returns

We are grateful to Mr. C. M. Toothill for the following cutting from the *North Eastern Gazette* of October 10, 1963: "For the third night out of five a strange flying object was seen over Teesside last night. Following the 'sightings' of Saturday and Tuesday (October 5 and 8, 1963). Mr. Ronald Tester, of 3, Oxford Road, Middlesbrough, told the *Evening Gazette* today that at about 10.15 last night he saw a large orangy-red disc move slowly from the Redcar direction towards Middlesbrough.

"I was riding my motor-cycle along Cargo Fleet Lane at the time, he said The object was too big to be the light of a plane, and made no sound. It moved slowly — then, roughly over Middlesbrough, it suddenly shot off and disappeared. I had watched it for several minutes.

"Mr. Tester said he had also seen the object sighted the previous evening but did not think much about it since it could have been a plane's navigation light."

Sussex Scare

The following account is taken from the Brighton *Evening Argus,* issue of October 14, 1963: "Young, red-headed Mrs. Joan Child was in the kitchen of her Woodingdean bungalow home, preparing an early breakfast, when THE THING came to visit. Tea cups clattered and Mrs. Child fair jumped out of my skin as, with a W-H-O-O-S-H and a roar, IT flashed down over her garden hedge and passed her kitchen window. Now a mystified Mrs.

Child is wondering what IT was. And so are her neighbours in Farm Hill, Woodingdean, who dashed from their homes as that W-H-O-O-S-H rattled the windows.

'It was so strange. I am sure anything like it before,' said Mrs. it came from Up Above. And I most certainly have never seen Child, glancing, still rather warily, out of her kitchen window.

"Then Mrs. Child gave all the evidence she had on the THING. It was about 6.45 a.m. and I was just preparing my husband John's breakfast when the 'Woosh' came. It was a terrific noise, just as if some monster gas jet had been ignited, and as I looked up a ball of fire about 12 ft. in diameter flashed past about 6 ft. from the ground. I was terrified. I had never seen or heard anything like it in my life and I immediately thought of my neighbour. She came rushing out and we went to have a look round, but there was no sign of any damage or burn marks. My husband heard the noise, and so did my son Raymond, who was in bed — and that is something, because it usually takes an awful lot to wake him up.

"Mrs. Child is convinced her fiery early morning visitor wasn't a firework. And she dreads to think what would have happened if it had come in a few yards to the left. It would have hit her kitchen.

"Elderly Mrs. Helen Manning, who lives next door, was scared stiff, by that WHOOSH. She didn't see the fireball but the noise was tremendous. Said her husband, George: 'I got my brother to climb up on the roof to see if anything was there, but he drew a blank. It is a complete mystery.'

"And even the astronomers at the Royal Observatory, Herstmonceux, were for once without an answer. I am as mystified as the people in Woodingdean. I have no explanation to offer and we certainly haven't had any reports, said a spokesman. Then he added: Come to think of it, I heard an odd bang myself . . ."

(Credit M. Ross).

Another sceptic confounded

A reader from Goldthorpe "An Observer" wrote to the Mexborough *South Yorkshire Times* on October 5, 1963:

"Sir,—I am a keen amateur astronomer and, because I suppose I had looked at the heavens for many hours without seeing anything unprecedented, I remained sceptical about the casual reports of flying saucers.

"Then, one night, about three years ago, I observed what I thought to be a bright star in the square of Pegasus, with the inclusion of Alpheratz, situated where I knew there should not be a star visible. At first I wondered if it was that very rare occurrence of a supernova, 1054, 1572 and all that. An instant later I thought: well, the Milky Way does not run through this constellation, so I reasoned it was doubtful. But, then, on more attentive surveillance I perceived it was moving very slowly.

"I thought can it be? But immediately dismissed the thought from my mind believing flying saucers to be a myth and it to be an earth satellite. I thought no more of the incident until very recently, to be exact, at about 5.0 a.m. on Saturday (14-9-63), when I arose early looked through the window and saw Orion conspiciously placed fairly high in the sky and decided, with promptitude, to do some observing.

"I had just gone outside when my eye was directly attracted to something to the right of me. I turned my head and there it was . . . a flying saucer . . . or what ever it might have been it was not of this world; its flight being dependant upon its own gyration; it was moving on a very low course and remained in my view for a few seconds, then disappeared over adjacent buildings; it was almost identical to what other people, whom I never believed, had described. The main compartment was spherical in shape and completely surrounded by a metallic tyre; it in its entirety being made of a shiny metal and the whole was spinning but made no audible sound. I was confounded with amazement! There was I who, prior to this, would denounce anyone stating they had seen such an object actually seeing one with my own eyes. And so, naturally, I am now utterly, completely and absolutely convinced of their existence.

"One might say why does not our radar network system pick up these flying saucers. That is a good point and it was the principle reason why previously I discredited the reports pertaining to them. But I think that these beings from outer space must have evolved some kind of anti-radar device and in its finer detail and development must be very effective, though, in essence, it could be nothing more complicated than coating the vehicle with ions and, in some way, the radar signals pass round the vehicle without being reflected back to the station responsible for the initial radar emission and thereby any craft is undetected."

An interesting feature in this incident is the reason given for earlier scepticism. This reader was apparently unaware that on many occasions flying saucers have been detected by radar. Here is an indication of the spadework still to be done to bring home the facts to the general public. In the vast majority of cases scepticism is founded on ignorance.

Manchester mystery

On October 8, 1963, the *Manchester Evening News* printed the following letters in its Postbag section: "We wonder if any of your readers saw a strange airborne object between 1 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. on Friday, October 4.

"The silver object, obviously thousands of feet high, appeared to be spinning, and about once every three minutes distinctly gave out a white flash.

"Apparently it was not a high-flying aeroplane as it did not move at all during the half-hour we were watching it.

"As there were more than 20 of us it could not merely be dismissed as an optical illusion.—Stuart Scully (aged 13), 11 Mona Avenue, Cheadle."

"I was very interested to read of 'The Mystery of the Thing in the Sky" (Postbag, October 1).

"I, too, saw a mystery object on the same day as your correspondent—only it happened about 2.30 p.m.

"I was gazing at the sky — it was a bright day with blue sky and white clouds — when a small shining object appeared and slowly disappeared behind one of the clouds.

"It was very clearly defined and shone all over.

"My husband and I watched it for a few minutes.—(Mrs.) D. Simister, 11 Egerton Park, Worsley."

"I also like J.P., of Handforth, have seen a strange object in the sky.

"I glanced out of the dining-room window at 6.45 p.m. today, Wednesday, October 2, when something caught my attention.

"The glowing object seemed to come out of a cloud towards the earth, hover for a while, and then its glow dimmed as it climbed slowly back into the cloud.

"When the light was out the object looked quite black and oval shaped. — M.W., Audenshaw."

Another barley field puzzle

On October 7, 1963, the *Hastings Evening Argus* carried the following report: "Farmer Alfred Gadd peered down the mysterious 20ft. deep hole in his barley field at Filleworth and scratched his head. 'Never seen anything like this before,' he said. 'But I suppose someone will start saying it was made by a flying saucer from outer space.'

"Bomb disposal experts—who also investigated the Wiltshire turnip field riddle—were called in, but were non-committal. No full-scale digging operations were started, although the soldiers left nothing to chance, squelching across the muddy stubble to probe around the hole with a detector. They found nothing. Still, they are coming back to have another look, because a 1,000lb. bomb could have buried itself up to 40ft. deep in soft earth.

"Mr. Gadd, aged 65, of Fitzleroi Farm, thinks the 2ft. wide hole could have been caused by an unexploded German bomb during World War II. 'I heard them fall but I didn't hear them go off,' he said. 'We have been ploughing this field for 30 years and the hole appeared after the combine harvester had gone over the spot to cut the barley.'

"Bomb or no bomb, it won't stop him working in the field. The only clue that there is a hole is a bale of straw sticking up in the middle of some of the most isolated countryside in West Sussex. And that's been put there to stop some unsuspecting rambler from falling down the hole."

Farmer Alfred Gadd is probably correct in saying that somebody will connect the mystery with flying saucers. After all, there's no law against it.

A query from Ipswich

The following letter is taken from the *East Anglian Daily Times*, Ipswich on October 29, 1963: "Sir,—I would be interested to hear of any other readers who noticed the unusual objects in the sky around 3.30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22nd.

"For an unskilled observer it is almost impossible to assess height, size and speed of flying objects, suffice it to say that there appeared to be two bodies, one brighter or larger than the other, at a very great height, connected by a tow-line or something similar which could be seen weaving from side to side when in level flight. They aproached this area at a considerable speed from the North-East, circled, hovered and spiralled almost immediately overhead for about ten minutes and finally disappeared in the direction of Ipswich, roughly South-East from here.

"Much as it would please me to be able to do so, I am not suggesting these were flying saucers, as they did not behave in quite the traditional manner, appearing rather to be governed by high winds in the upper atmosphere. Another weather balloon, perhaps?—C. LAMBERT."

Bilborough people see discs

From the *Nottingham Evening Post*, October 23, 1963:

"Several Bilborough people reported seeing strange discs of light below the heavy layer of clouds last night One of them was Brian Wheeldon (15), of 14, Ranmere-road, Beechdale, who said he was walking along Bracebridge-drive when he saw an orange disc in the sky in the direction of Trowell.

"It moved left along the sky under the clouds and then faded. Shortly afterwards , it appeared in the place where first seen and then faded again. Each time they were visible for 15 to 20 seconds and there was a lapse of about half a minute between the first and second sightings,' he told the *Evening Post*. The discs had a hazy outline, he added.

"The phenomenon was also seen by Roger Lloyd, of 86, Cockington-road, Bilborough, and his friend, Terry Foster, of 23, Russell-crescent, Wollaton, who are both 14.

"Terry said: 'It could have been a flying saucer. It was at an altitude of 8,000 to 10,000ft. and the light did not go out sharply, but seemed to fade gradually.'

"Watnall Meteorological Office confirmed that the cloud base was about 10,000ft. and that it was unlikely that they would give reflections of anything on the ground."

Two Yorkshire sightings

The *Yorkshire Post* on October 24, 1963, printed the following letter from one of its readers:

"Sir,—No doubt in the past you have been swamped by people who have seen flying saucers but

I feel I must record what I saw at 2 a m on October 20.

" I looked out of my window at that time and saw what I thought was a large star it was a bluey green colour and brilliant. To my astonishment it appeared to be moving with a side to side movement.

"I woke my husband up to see it and my son, aged 9, heard us and joined us. It continued to sway and move for 20 minutes until it disappeared from view behind a row of houses.

" I listened for the sound of aircraft, but there was not any.—Yours, etc.,

Leeds, 8. (Mrs.) M. FOSTER."

This letter produced the following reply which the *Yorkshire* Post printed on October 28, 1963:

" Sir,—I was very interested in the letter in the *Yorkshire Post* (October 24) referring to Mrs. M. Foster, of Leeds, seeing a Flying Saucer on Sunday, October 20, I saw exactly the same object, the next day, at 6.45 a.m.

" I too called my husband and daughter, aged 14, and we watched it together. Again there was no sound of aircraft, the object was in sight for 20-25 minutes.—Yours, etc.,

Harrogate. (Mrs.) D. COOK."

"Mystery Objects" over Carshalton

Mystery objects were reported in the sky over Carshalton, Surrey, last night. Mr. Joseph Colbourne, 46, of Carshalton Park Road, Carshalton, said: " I saw two very bright lights, close together, very high up. It was too dark to make out any shape—but it was like an aircraft with a light at the front and rear. Another man at a paper stall saw it as well."

(From the *Evening Standard*, November 15, 1963)

Merseyside saucer

From the *Liverpool Echo*, October 19, 1963: " Meteorological and aviation experts were baffled today, by the mysterious unidentified object seen flying 500ft. over a Birkenhead housing estate this morning. It was first seen by a 41-years-old Bromborough metallurgist, Mr. Peter Robinson, when he was taking his six-years-old daughter Hilary for a walk after breakfast.

"He told the Echo: ' It was 8.46 a.m. and we had just reached the junction of Gerald Road and Bidston Road, when I saw a big golden or silver-coloured object hovering about 500ft. over the Woodchurch housing estate. It seemed to remain stationary for about two minutes then disappear into a thin layer of cloud higher up. It definitely wasn't an aircraft. It could have been a flying saucer, but I would prefer to keep an open mind on that question.'

"The mystery object was also seen at about the same time by Mr. Jack Browne, of 19 Brittannia Avenue, Wavertree, as he was driving to work in the city.

" I was coming down Upper Parliament Street at the time and could see it clearly hovering over the back of Birkenhead about six to eight miles away. It looked exactly like the Northern Star in daylight. I've never seen anything like it before. I've no idea what it was. It could have been a flying saucer, but I wouldn't like to say. It vanished in less than a minute.'

"A spokesman at Bidston Observatory commented : ' We have had no report of unidentified objects in the area at the time nor have we seen any. As far as we are aware there were no weather balloons in the area at the time.'

"Said a Meteorological Office official at Liverpool Airport: ' We have no idea what it is. It's a mystery.'

"And at Hawarden Airport an official said: ' We have no idea what it is. There were no aircraft in the vicinity at the time. We are just as much in the dark about this as everybody else.' "

(Credit to Mr. Douglas V. Thorne).

Wiltshire UFO

The following account appeared in the *Bath and Wilts Chronicle* on October 29, 1963 : " A circular, metallic object has been seen over Roundway Hospital, Devizes. And it was not a balloon, says the person who saw it.

" Hospital orderly Martin Tucker (19), of Rotherstone, Devizes, said yesterday: It was directly over the hospital. The sun was shining on it. It looked highly polished, silvery and metallic. If it hadn't been circular I would have thought it was a plane. The clouds were moving across it and the object was moving the other way so it couldn't have been a balloon. It was quite high—how high I wouldn't like to say—but it was behind the clouds. There was a high wind. I called a friend to see it but by that time it had gone.

" Added Martin, who used to go in for plane spotting, ' I don't know of any aircraft that are circular.'

Trailed by a flying saucer

The following account, sent to us by Mr. D. M. Vernon, appeared in the *Manchester Evening News* on November 13, 1963 : " Mr. Tony Softley, a Southport restaurant owner, claimed today that he was followed home in the early hours by a flying saucer. Police, R.A.F. and coast guards were alerted by a garage where he stopped. The object was seen by six people at the garage and was under observation for more than an hour.

" Police said today there were no reports of shipping or aircraft in distress and no other inquiries had been received. They said the object—bright star-like lights — were similar to lifeboat recall signals but no lifeboat had been launched.

" I noticed the light as I was driving into Southport from Preston, said Mr. Softley. It seemed to be following me. After a while it changed colour from white to green and was joined by another. They came in quite close as though they were following me. I was quite frightened.

" A small white circular object seen over Manchester today by laboratory assistant Barry Rush-

ton, aged 16, of Avonley Road, Droylsden, was thought to be a meteorological balloon.

Another over Wolverhampton

Wolverhampton and the Black Country continue to supply UFO sightings. The *Wolverhampton Express and Star* on September 19, 1963, added to the list : "A star-gazing Stafford family who saw something strange in the sky are the latest to join the growing list of unidentified flying object spotters.

"It was flashing, twinkling, brilliantly white and blue, says the head of the family, Mr. Frederick Parker, describing what they saw. Mr. Parker and his eldest son, David (13), were watching the planet Saturn through a home astronomical telescope when David sighted the mystery light.

"There is a star moving, David shouted. His father replied stars don't move, but he looked up and sure enough something was moving and he ran to fetch his wife and their other son, Brian (12), to watch it. For ten minutes they watched—not through the telescope—as the light travelled towards the south and then changed directions to go towards the east, diminishing in size and finally disappearing

"An amateur astronomer since he was 12, Mr. Parker, of 5, Boon Grove, Moss Pit, told the *Express and Star* : 'As far as I can tell it was not terrestrial and it was not celestial. It was not a planet, star, meteor, or satellite, I am convinced of that. There is only one category I can place it in and that is an unidentified flying object.

"After the mystery light disappeared, said Mr. Parker, an aircraft did pass over and then another moving speck of white light appeared, following the path of the aircraft. Mr. Parker said they saw the mystery light on Sunday night but said nothing for a few days, wondering if others would report seeing anything similar."

FRANCE

Ten UFOs

The following report is taken from the Perpignan paper *L'Independant,* issue of September 19, 1963 : "A Perpignan resident, M. Vergès of rue Flaubert, saw last Tuesday (September 17) ten unusual objects moving at great speed in the sky at 10.30 p.m. — there were no stars visible at the time. The height at which the objects were seen was estimated at approximately 2,000 metres.

"That evening, M. and Mme. Vergès were looking at television. A programme had just ended and Mme. Vergès went out on to the terrace and, lifting her eyes to the sky, saw the objects which were proceeding in a line and oscillating. She immediately called her husband who fetched his binoculars and saw that the objects had assumed a new formation. One moment they were in a line which appeared to be heading in the direction of Boulou, the next they seemed to be making for Prades in a vertical formation after having flown over the boulevard Clémenceau in a "V" formation.

"M. Vergès, whom it is impossible to doubt and who holds an important adiministrative position in the town states that when viewed through his binoculars, these objects, which could only be called flying saucers, possessed an ellipsoid shape and were about 30 cm. in length.

"M. Vergès who, for a long time has wanted to see a saucer says that the 'unknowns' could not have been aircraft, nor birds nor weather balloons. There was no noise, no lights and no smoke, while a dozen aeroplanes would have made an unmistakable roar. The objects, M. Vergès declared, were of a grey colour and metallic."

U.S.A.

Bay Area Puzzle

We are indebted to Mrs. A. Cuadra for having sent us this account from the California *Oakland Tribune,* issue of September 26, 1963 : "Two questions puzzle Bay Area astronomer – humanists today. What were those lights in the South Bay Area sky about 4 a.m. Wednesday ? And what were all the people who saw 'em doing up at 4 a.m.? Nobody knows about the lights. They were reported variously as half-moon shape or boomerang shape, moving rapidly across the heavens, brightly lighted, glowing intensely and fading alternately, and, according to one watcher, blowing up in the west.

"The San Mateo and Santa Clara County sheriffs' offices don't know what they were and the Federal Aviation Agency says it doesn't know. There is a partially satisfactory explanation for the number of persons in the wee-hour unpromptu moonwatch. At least 20 called various sheriff's offices and more called other places seeking information. Ed Cameron, of 380 Muller Road, Walnut Creek, was starting on his paper route and some of the watchers were workmen at the Permanente Cement plant near Los Altos. The other witnesses are a mystery, just like the lights."

UFO over De La Vista

The following account is taken from the Californian *Arlington Times,* June 26, 1963, with acknowledgments also to the September issue of *Understanding* : "It wouldn't be any good to try and lie to you . . . I just can't describe what I saw. I've never seen anything like it, and A. W. Creech, still baffled by an unidentified flying object that he and other residents on De La Vista in Rubidoux saw hovering over their homes last week. Betty Ables, 6702 De La Vista, said she was lying on the living room couch when the children came yelling into the house. Her 9-year-old son Danny was saying the moon has fallen. Her daughter Sue, who will be a sophomore at Rubidoux High next fall thought that man in a parachute had caught fire in some high voltage wires.

"When the immediate excitement was over and the group could collect its senses for a better look, this is apparently what they saw: a red glow hovering in the sky behind a clump of trees about one block from the corner of De La Vista and Pacific. The object had a silver dome over it and antennae protruding from it where the glow and the dome met. Children playing in their yards in the area at about 9 p.m. last Tuesday said they saw the object come up from behind the trees like a moon. Others, on Vista de Oro, said they saw it first when it flew over the hills between the high school and Pedley, coming from the direction of Corona. There were no disagreements as to where the object was hovering, how long it was there, or what colour it was. It allegedly remained in the area for an hour, then proceeded slowly towards Mt. Rubidoux, where it remained for another hour before rising suddenly and disappearing. Only the children who saw it earlier in the evening say they saw the silvery dome over the glow. All of them saw the antennae."

UFOs Over Buffalo

From the *Sheridan Press*, September 27, 1963, issue: "Two unidentified flying objects had the town of Buffalo in a stir Thursday night (September 26). The objects were described the same as a previous one spotted near Cody Sunday night (September 22).

"Al Bailey, a Buffalo radio announcer, said police called him around 8 p.m. to report the first object. Bailey said he watched the object through field glasses for about and hour before it disappeared. He said the object was stationary all the time he observed it. Just before the first one disappeared, Bailey said, a second object was seen further to the east.

"He described both as being large, sphere shaped and with two lights — one red and one blue or green—at each end. He said the lights appeared to rotate slowly about the body of the object.

"A sighting of a similar object was reported earlier from Cody. his one was observed for about six hours before it disappeared."

THE ARGENTINE

"Squadron of flying saucers"

The Italian newspaper *Corriere de la Sera* on October 25, 1963, carried the following report with a dateline of October 24 from Buenos Aires: "According to reports received here, a squadron of flying saucers sowed panic during the night of October 21-22 at Trancas, in the Province of Tucuman, Argentina. According to the inhabitants of that place — seemingly victims of a collective hallucination — the episode appears to have been as follows: The saucers, six in number, remained suspended in the air for about 40 minutes, at a height of only a few tens of metres, above the principal houses of the village.

"The accounts agree that, when the discs appeared, the air became filled with the smell of sulphur, and the temperature rose. All the discs were about 8 metres in diameter, and they each had 12 portholes. Every one of them seemed to be examining the terrain by means of two luminous beams, one white and the other a purplish-red, the blinding light from which lit up the whole countryside."

Hundreds see saucer

The following account is taken from *Ultimas Noticias* of Caracas, issue of August 7, 1963: "With great alarm, a large proportion of the population of Caracas yesterday watched the arrival and departure, over that city, of a flying saucer with travellers from another world. It was thought that it had landed somewhere in the Las Acacias suburb, after almost grazing the treetops and performing various acrobatic movements, and after remaining suspended in the air for several minutes at a point between the University City and the National Television Building. Observers say that during the time that they were able to get a good view of the craft it shone with a most dazzling brightness. Then, when it disappeared up into the sky again, it went so quickly that it seemed to have disintegrated in mid-air.

"The time was 10 a.m. The sun was shining brightly and the sky was very clear. Observers who saw the craft hovering say that it was just like the way a helicopter hovers when its crew are investigating something.

"At first people thought it must be some kind of large military plane, but when it vanished so suddenly they realized it could not be from this world. Immense crowds flocked to the area around the National Television Building expecting to see the 'crashed plane,' sirens were sounded, and official cars dashed to and fro. But nothing was found. The Radio Station had in the meantime already announced that a plane had crashed close by the National Television Building."

Robot bars the way

The following report is taken from the French regional newspaper *le Maine Libre* for October 21, 1963: "Three strange beings with the gait of robots have been seen by a truck-driver on a lonely highway in the Argentine. So, at least declares the victim of this curious mishap, who has come to tell the Police at Monte Maiz the circumstances of his encounter.

"Ernesto Douglas was driving along in his truck, the other night, during a violent storm, on the road from Monte Maiz to Isla Verde (in the Province of Cordoba), when he was suddenly blinded by a vivid white light which enveloped his vehicle on all sides and which was travelling in the same direction. Simultaneously, Douglas felt a burn on his face. He braked, but his truck skidded and left the road and bogged down in the mud.

The chauffeur declares that he then found himself in the presence of three strange beings which seemed to be robots, near to which there was an oval-shaped device furnished with portholes and emitting a harsh light. Panicking, he picked up his revolver and fired four bullets at the mysterious beings. The latter fled and took refuge in their 'space craft,' which they started up. They flew around over Douglas several times, and on each occasion he felt burns all over his body.

"Exhausted, and with his clothes in tatters, Douglas reported at the Police post at Monte Maiz, where he underwent a medical examination. The doctor has declared that the driver's burns had the appearance of 'curious lesions' of which he was unable to determine the cause. He has given his assurance that the victim was perfectly 'sound in mind.'"

AUSTRALIA

Sandy Creek mystery

The *Melbourne Age* in its July 10, 1963, issue carried the following report : "The sighting of a strange glowing red object which rose from the roadway as he approached it on the Lyndoch-Gawler Road, Sandy Creek, has been reported to police by a Willaston resident. Willaston is about 30 miles north of Adelaide.

"The object was seen by the man, who would not give his name, as he returning to his home from Lyndoch, at 9.30 p.m. on June 28. He said the object was about 25 ft. across and 12 ft. high, with a concave top and a flat base. It has glowed blood red while low to the ground, and appeared to change to a lighter reddish yellow as it gathered speed and flew off. I first noticed the glow as I approached a bend in the road, he said.

"As I rounded the bend I noticed this blood red object extending across the roadway. I applied my brakes and was within 12 ft. of it, before it rose suddenly from the roadway. I was terrified, as I watched it through the windscreen. It rose several hundred feet before it turned on its side and made off at fantastic speed towards two wells with streams of vapour snaking from it..

"The man said he was unable to say whether the objcet was solid or was made up of gases. I'm sure of one thing. I saw it and I never want another experience life it, he added.

"When he reached home he was trembling with fright, and his wife told him his face was as white as paper. The man said that he returned to the scene the following day to look for scorch marks on the road but did not find any."

Mystery object explodes

From the South Australia *Adelaide News,* July 25, 1963 : "A giant object, glowing like the sun, and travelling at tremendous speed, exploded in the sea with a terrifying roar off Mount Drummond on Lower Eyre Peninsula yesterday evening.

About five minutes later the previously quiet surf was heard 12 miles away roaring and pounding on the shore. This was the story told to the News today by Mr. K. Ashman by telephone from his farm at Kapinnie. He said his house was shaken by the blast as percussion waves streaked inland.

"Mr. Ashman said he saw the object glowing like the sun and streaking across his property from north-east to south-west trailing a brilliant white light one or two minutes after sundown yesterday.

"It was difficult to estimate the height at which the object passed, because it was travelling at times through clouds, he said. It was also hard to estimate its size because of its bright light.

"Mr. Ashman estimated the object crashed into the sea 50 miles out to sea and about 70 miles from his farm. He said it was difficult to estimate just how loud the explosion was because accompanying shock waves had affected his ears.

"We can hear the sea when it is rough from the house, Mr. Ashton said. It was a calm sea yesterday and we could not hear it. But after the explosion we could hear the sea roaring. It lasted for about 20 seconds.

"However, it may be some time before any dead fish are washed ashore. Thinking the whole thing over, I believe the object could have been a meteor, Mr. Ashton said. It appeared to be slowing down before it went into the sea. I formed this opinion because of the brilliant tail following it. If it was a guided missile from Woomera I feel sure it would not have been fired in this direction.

"The matter has been reported to Cummins police, who will prepare a report.

"Mr. Barry Morton of Bridge Road, Para Hills, said he had seen a strange unidentified flying object in the sky about 9 p.m. yesterday. He said it was red and appeared to be going across the direction of Parafield towards the sea rising up gaining altitude. The object seemed to be about four times the size of a street light emitting a red light.

"On Monday night (July 20, 1963) two persons, one at Northfield and another at Joslin, reported a strange object in the sky with square windows with bright lights issuing from it."

MAIL BAG

Correspondence is invited from our readers, but they are asked to keep their letters short. Unless letters give the sender's full name and address (not necessarily for publication) they cannot be considered. The Editor would like to remind correspondents that it is not always possible to acknowledge every letter personally so he takes this opportunity of thanking all who write to him.

Space robots?

Sir,—Readers may like to know that in the book referred to by Aimé Michel in your November-December, 1962, issue, the astronomer Sklovskiy suggests that space travellers are living beings, though *artificially created* for such a purpose by a biological science millions of years ahead of ours. (see the review by Jacques Bergier in the *Courrier Interplanetaire,* No. 7, 1963. A similar view is held by Coral Lorenzen, see *APRO Bulletin,* No. 11, 1963).

Mr. Peter Sharp, with whom I mostly agree, does not seem to make the necessary and important distinction between plain observation of landed saucers with dwarf-like creatures and the alleged "talks and rides" types — the dubious contact claims. The former are verified beyond any doubt by the consistency and striking agreement in reported details, supported by physical evidence, police corroboration, etc.

If Sklovskiy's robots are stupid, Dr. Bernard Finch may be right. However, if they are highly intelligent and are carrying out orders received from their superiors on a distant planet, there there are plenty of good reasons for their antics and their shyness. One of them is that they wish to hide vital UFO secrets from earthmen who are notoriously destructive.—K. Gosta Rehnn, Smedjevägen 2A, Bromma 12, Sweden.

Patrick Moore

Sir,—In referring to Patrick Moore's comments on the Charlton crater (see September-October, 1963, issue of the FLYING SAUCER REVIEW), I find he mentioned a meteorite "crashing down at 45 miles per second." I have since discovered that the maximum speed at which a meteor can hit the earth's atmosphere is 45 miles per second, but that meteorites weighing less than a ton lose *all* their cosmic velocity at a considerable height and, what is more, produce a crater comparable to their actual size. So how can he suggest that a half pound meteorite could have produced such a crater? — Barrie Pottage, 43, Kent Road, Luton, Beds.

Liverpool UFO activity

Sir,—I am a science teacher employed near Liverpool and have been startled by numerous reports of UFOs in this area. Most of the reports come to me from the young lads of the secondary school where I work. They usually report a light seen at night, sometimes at great heights and distances, but also much nearer and often — very often, in fact — in the vicinity of the English Electric works nearby. The light is usually reported as reddish and revolving, as if attached to an object which itself remains invisible due to the darkness. It is reported as being capable of moving in any direction as well as of remaining still. No noise of any kind is ever mentioned. When the witnesses are asked where did it finally go, they answer (a) it went out or (b) it disappeared behind the English Electric.

I wonder if this firm is developing some new kind of craft or weapon. My colleagues who are nearly all professional men and I would be extremely grateful for your opinion. Most of my colleagues are sceptical, but recent reports in the local press have impressed some of them. If you publish this letter I must ask you to withhold my name and address as I have recently experienced some trouble over the mention of flying saucers.

(The writer's name and address is in the possession of the Editor.)

A hoaxer confesses

Sir,—It is all very well for Mr. John Southern (see "A Hoaxer Confesses," November-December, 1963, issue) to come forward and admit that he did not dig the Charlton crater and appear to be rather proud than otherwise. He has, in fact, done a grave disservice to us all and hindered the cause of scientific progress. He apparently lacked the wit to realise that an untruth often sticks whereas a correction usually fails to reach those who have been deluded. Where flying saucers and newspapers are concerned, the lie seems to be preferred to the truth, as your article clearly demonstrated. It would be very pleasant to learn that we were to hear nothing more about Mr. John Southern and his efforts to further our cause. — Reginald Millet, Southend.

Medway towns sighting

Sir,—The note in the "Medway towns mystery" in your November-December, 1963, issue

contains descriptions of objects similar to one I saw over York one Sunday evening in 1943 or 1944. The object in question appeared to consist of a source of light with a relatively much larger "tail." The tail was triangular and luminous, though not as bright as the "source" at the apse. I watched the object as it hung, seemingly motionless, for several minutes in a position probably several hundred feet above the ground and with the plane of the tail apparently vertical. Suddenly it moved off at great speed at an angle of about 40° to the horizontal, the tail following the source. It was out of sight in a few seconds.—J. E. Barker, B.Sc., Ph.D., 89, Station Road, Woodhouse, Sheffield.

The Charlton crater

Sir,—I found your article on the Charlton crater (see September-October, 1963, issue) most interesting. Regarding the possibility that the crater was made by a meteorite, I am enclosing an extract from the American book *Ask a Question About Meteorites* by the recognised authority H. H. Nininger. After reading this extract the meteorite explanation must definitely be discarded. It seems, however, as you pointed out in your article, that the authorities have said at last that they don't know the answer.

The extract to which I have referred reads as follows :

"What is a meteorite crater ?

A meteorite crater is a bowl-like depression in the earth which is formed by the impact of a large meteorite. It will tend to be circular in shape (although some are elliptical), the pit floor is lower that the surrounding terrain, the pit is surrounded by a prominent collar or uplifted rim, the strata in this rim dip sharply away from the vertical axis of the pit, and there is no evidence of the extrusion of lava in any of the known craters.

How are meteorite craters formed ?

Meteorite craters are formed by huge meteorites which, by reason of their size or structure, avoid aerial breakup and reach the earth still travelling at high rates of speed. Craters larger than about 90 feet in diameter are usually formed by the explosive disruption of the forming meteorites which were travelling at speeds somewhat in excess of one mile per second at the time of impact and exploded with tremendous force to blast the crater. Such craters tend to be circular, or sometimes somewhat square, and the remaining fragments of the meteorite which has made them are manly scattered about over the terrain outside of the crater pit. Meteorites which explode to form craters are the only ones believed to reach the earth in blazing condition.

Craters under 90 feet in diameter are normally formed by meteorites travelling at speeds below those at which impact explosion occurs. These craters are formed by the force of the impact and fragmentation alone and tend to be somewhat elliptical in shape. The larger part of the meteorite which forms this type of crater will be found within the pit, there having been no explosion to remove it therefrom." — Antonio Ribera, Comision Investigadorei de Objetos No Identificados, Roca y Batlle 5, Barcelona (6), Spain.

Lenticular clouds

Sir,—Never for an instant have I entertained the idea that your reader L. J. Moulster is a die-hard sceptic. I am merely concerned that one who has taken your REVIEW for so many years should stumble, even temporarily, into the ways of the sceptic.

Mr. Moulster now recommends that I visit a library to read up the subject of the mysterious and highly destructive wave clouds, but surely this would prove a fruitless exercise. For example, there are books on meteorites in many libraries, and meteorites are offered, quite incorrectly, as an explanation of the UFO.

My reason for answering Mr. Moulster's letter in the July-August, 1963, issue of the REVIEW, was to make the point that a lenticular cloud sounds very like a rationalisation even more absurd, because meteorites have been closely studied, while lenticular clouds have, on Mr. Moulster's admission, only recently been the subject of scrutiny.

When, as a result of this scrutiny, greater detail is forthcoming, I am confident that a great many lenticular clouds will be found to have been UFOs ! What's in a name ? — C. A. Bowen, 23, Blackmore Crescent, Woking, Surrey.

Orthotney

Sir,—I have found two small mistakes in my article which was printed in the November-December, 1963, issue. They have no effect on the conclusions reached or on the method itself. I would however like to make the following corrections. On page 6, section (1) should read
"L = 42°13 plus or minus 0 5 west of Greenwich
i = 55°52 plus or minus 0°02."

In section (2) I wrote : "If we divide . . . into ten equal parts" instead of "nine equal parts." It is obvious that ten points define nine intervals. This may have confused your readers if they checked on Figure 3, 54.430 km multiplied by ten is much larger than 490 km and this could not be explained by a slight imprecision in the computation. — Jacques Vallée, 1502, W. Bryn Mawr, Chicago 26, U.S.A.

The weirdest craft

Sir,—I wonder if any of your readers have noticed the startling

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THE MOON AND THE PLANETS *by C. M. Pither*

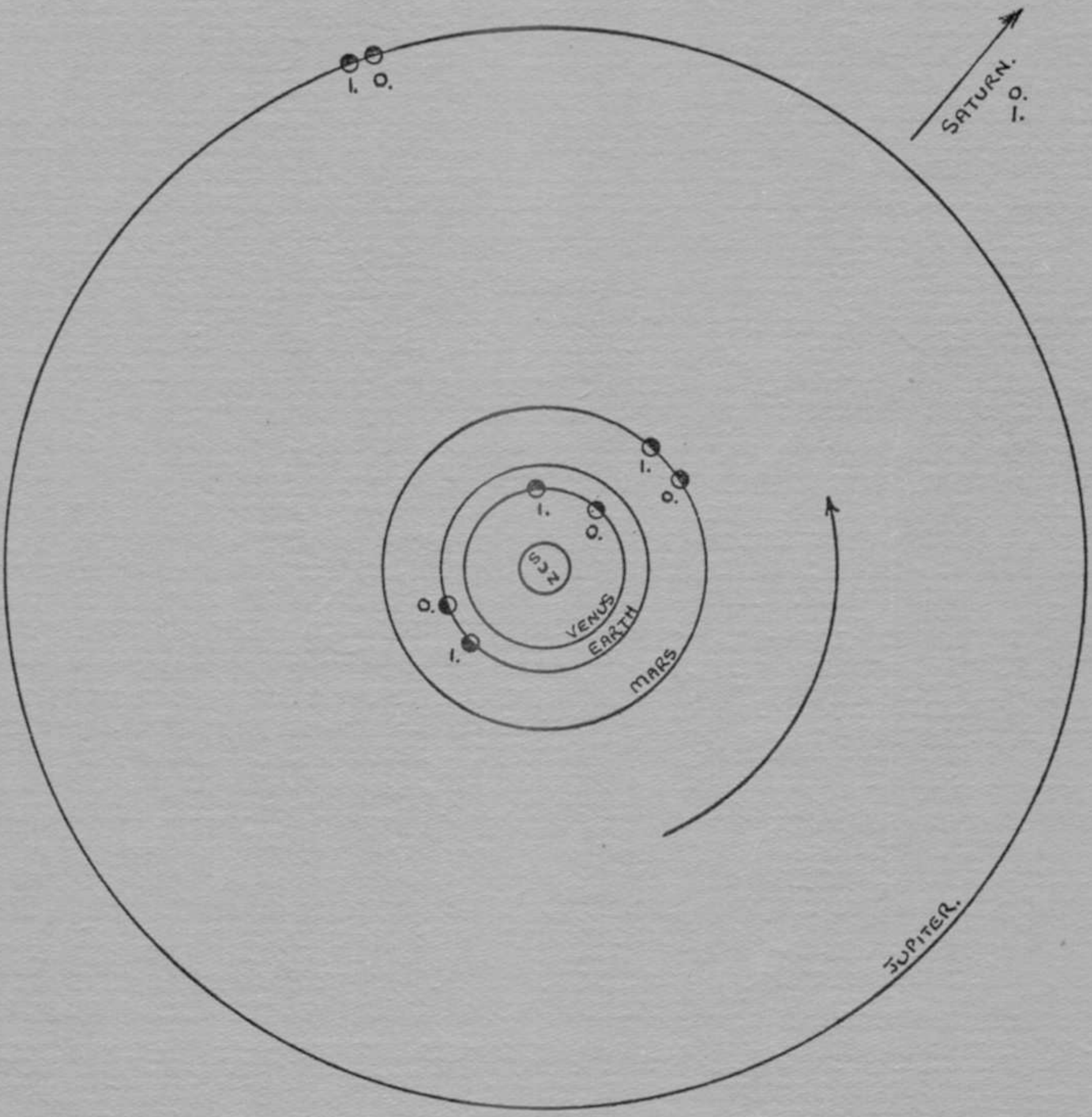

FIG. 1.

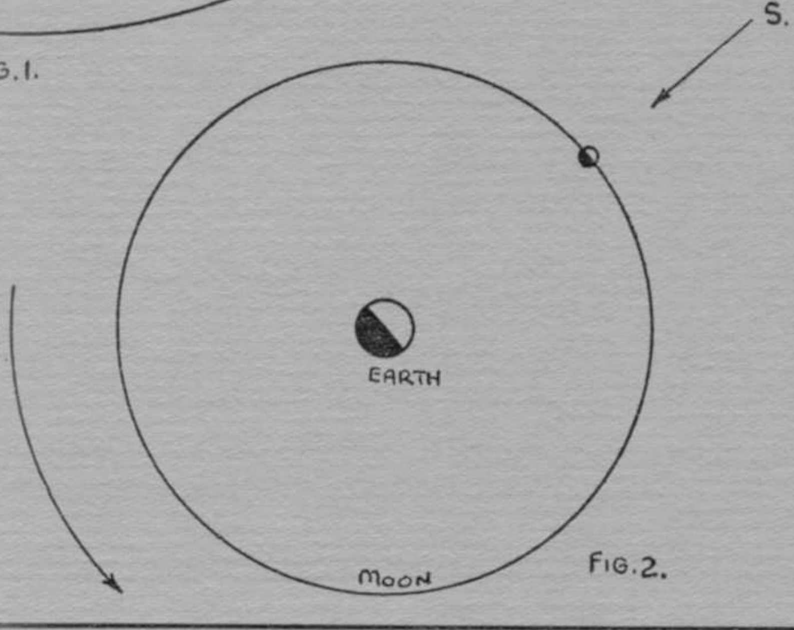

FIG. 2.

Figs. 1 and 2 :

0. The Moon and Planets during Jan., 1964

1. The Moon and Planets during Feb., 1964

N.B. : During February. Conjunctions occur for the planets Mars and Saturn ; this means that during the month both planets will lie on the opposite side of the Sun to the Earth, thus they cross the sky during the daytime.

(Contiued from page 32)

similarity between the shape of the illuminated section of the object in Mr. Willemstyn's photograph (p.29 of the November-December issue of the REVIEW), and the shape of the 'wings' of the objects observed, and drawn, by M. Jean Rouchon at Vauriat, Puy-de-Dome, in August, 1962 (see July-August, 1963, issue)?

M. Rouchon and his companion had the advantage of observing the 'Weirdest Craft' at close range, and reported that there was neither reflection nor emission of light from the 'wings'. Note that the craft were seen in strong sunlight.

The object sighted by Mr. Willemstyn, and, no doubt, one of those explained away by the Air Ministry as continental weather balloons, was at a great altitude. If it was one of the 'Weird Craft,' it could be that the reflected light from its 'wings' was visible because of the dusk down below.

Had the French authorities an explanation for M. Rouchon comparable with that issued by our Air Ministry after the August sightings, of which Mr. Willemstyns was one? Did they suggest that he had witnessed the antics of a group of weather balloons released by . . . the devilish English? — Charles 'Bowen, Woking.

Obituary

JEAN COCTEAU

Jean Cocteau, died October 11, 1963.

Cocteau was one of us. He was the greatest mind that I have known (and I know several Nobel Prize winners).

It was he who was the very first to maintain to me—right at the very outset, in August 1954, when it was just beginning—that the 1954 wave was something real. At that time I myself had my doubts about it.

Here are some of the phrases he used to love to repeat:

"One must be crazy—as in fact men are—to think oneself the navel of the Universe."

"The astonishing thing would be if they (the UFOs) did *NOT* exist."

He was especially fond of the remark of one of our friends, Professor Chauvin (one of the top biologists in France): "When the scientists and scholars are stupid, they are methodically stupid."

I might add that the evangelical theory about "Our Space Brothers who watch over us" seemed to him to be very naïve. He used to say: "Even if they are more intelligent than we are, they are probably just as mad."

He was the most wonderful of mental stimulants. He knew how to make the most complicated of matters clear with a single word. For example on the subject of nuclear chain-reactions, he said: "It's like unravelling knitting."

He would at once spot an error in reasoning and, contrariwise, could also perceive immediately the ultimate consequences of an idea. This is why his conviction as to the existence of the Extraterrestrials carries so much weight. He had recognized in it one of the greatest discoveries of the twentieth century, perhaps indeed the greatest.

In him many minds throughout the world have lost a lucid guide. And I have lost a very dear friend.

Aimé Michel.

STOP PRESS

Landing in Kent

As this issue of the Flying Saucer Review was going to press, news reached us of a recent landing at Sandgate, near Folkestone, Kent. On the night of November 16, 1963, an object was seen in the sky by four witnesses. It was observed to be approaching and disappeared behind some trees. A figure was seen near the place of landing, about the size of a human being but apparently without a head and with webbed feet. A detailed account will appear in our March-April issue and also in the magazine Today, January 18 issue, to be published on January 13.

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